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THE NATIONAL ERA.

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For the National Era.

LIFE ON PRAIRIE DE LA FLEUR.—No. 7.

BY MARY IRVING.

"And a little grave they made her,
In the church-yard cold they laid her—
Laid her softly down to rest,
With a white rose on her breast—
Poor little Nell!"
Mrs. Nichols.

One frosty evening of November found us journeying over the prairie. It was past the hour of the sun's setting, though the sullen luminary had not deigned to lift even the corner of his glum cloud-veil, to give us a parting peep. The cold gusts, with a sweep of more than twenty miles to the southward, came raving about our ears, piercing through every pore of our muffs and mufflings, and finally died away in the groves skirting our western prospect, as surf-beats die upon the ocean shore. The roads had been thrown into chaos by "the equinoctial" and its train of attending storms, so that we had been dragging through the day at a most unsatisfactory rate of travel, and were far enough from our anticipated haven.

"Dear me! is there not a house on this everlasting prairie?" spoke, at last, one of the company, in a tone half smothered by tippet and buffalo robe.

"Plenty of log cabins in the woods yonder," returned the one addressed. "Would you like to make a call?"

"I mean, is there not a public house, a tavern of some kind, where a half-frozen traveller might find a fire to thaw his fingers by?"

"Yes—we shall come to ———'s Corners directly. There—there is the house, away beyond that swell; 'tis log—two-story—d'ye see?"

"That house is the village, eh?"

"I did not say it was a village! It is a point where four roads meet, and clumsy enough roads they are, to be sure!"

As we drew near to the house, a curiously huddled together combination of logs, mortar, and whitewash, more for convenience than elegance, we took notice of an upright pole in front of it, which had once, evidently, held up a grateful invitation to goers-by. But now it only creaked most tantalizingly and inhospitably in the wind.

"They've taken down the sign, you see—*oats* are scarce this season," soliloquized our driver, reconnoitering. "But never mind—I calculate we can find accommodation."

After a moment's parley with an old man in a brimless white hat, who sauntered through the doorway at our approach, and nodded assent, with an air of dignified nonchalance, to our eager inquiries, we were lifted from our carriage, glad enough to unbend our stiffened muscles by the blazing fire that had beckoned us through the window-panes.

A supper was soon smoking before us, fit for a hungry traveller—a brace of prairie chickens, fresh from the fences and nooks where they swarm at that season, garnished with minor dishes of onions, sausages, and "sour-krout," the favorite dish of the German immigrants.

The two daughters of the old host had spread the board for us; and, after their task was finished, I noticed that both went at once to the window, laid their heads each against a pane, and peered anxiously out.

"They are'nt coming, be they?" inquired the father, who sat knocking the ashes from his pipe, in the corner of the wide-arm chimney.

"No; but it's high time they were back. There's all the cows to milk and fodder yet, and then"—

The near tramping of hoofs cut off the girl's sentence, and in a few minutes a couple of young men bustled in, shook their shaggy over-coats and shaggier locks, and drew up to the blazing logs to unstiffen their benumbed fingers.

"What's the news?"

"Anything found, Royal?" inquired the sisters, eagerly pressing to their side, while the father thrust his pipe into the corner of his mouth unlighted, in his eagerness to catch the answer.

"No—oh, no!" replied Royal, shaking his bended head sorrowfully, so that his long, black hair fell like a veil over his eyes, that were fixed on the glimmering coals.

"The child never'll come to light alive," exclaimed the other, starting up to face us, in front of the fire, with his hands clasped behind his back. "Never, if she's out on the prairie this bitter cold night! Ugh! it's tough enough to kill a clever coon, much likelier a slim chance of a little girl like her!"

"Poor thing!" responded the sister, feelingly, "it's two nights, a'ready, she's been out o'doors, and starving the while!"

"T'other night wasn't chill like this. She won't stand it, you may depend on that."

"I don't reckon she's out at all," remarked the father, with a deliberate nod. "She was a purty child"—

"Pretty as a new pink morning-glory, the darling!" interrupted one of the daughters.

"Purty enough to 'tice some of these child-stealers that straggles about! I'd lay my little finger she's far enough away by this day!"

"Whose child is lost?" We ventured to put in, at a pause of a moment.

"It's little Nelly Waring, ma'am—child to John Waring, that lives over three miles yonder, on the prairie. You see, Miss"—

But I will give the short story in my own words, with the additions and emendations that I afterwards gleaned from others.

John Waring had come from New England to "the West" with his father's family, to win a subsistence from a more generous land than the home of hills and valleys. The parents remained in the part where they landed; but John, with the helpful, ready-willed and ready-handed "wife of his youth," resolved to improve the tempting facilities for farming. So he purchased a "lot" on our prairie, built him a snug "nest," and took home his dove to cheer it.

They were far from any neighbors, but that mattered little to them. Each was a little world to the other; and very happy, as well as very prosperous, were they in their flower-girt retirement. Toward the close of the third year, John had laid by enough to build what a thorough-going farmer ranks far before a house in importance—a good, capacious *barn*. Very spacious it was, with bins, stalls, and lofts, in abundance, where one might, indeed, "lay up much goods for many years." One could not well blame its framer for the thrill of satisfaction that warmed his heart, when the last rafter and clapboard were nailed, and the complete building, in its new coat of red paint, blushed in the blaze of sunset. His busy, cheerful, helpmate, with hands tucked under her apron, came out by his side to mingle congratulations with his delight. And she came not alone; a wee blossom, fairer than ever prairie in its wildness bore, had budded in her arms two years before.

Little Ellen Waring was a child of most uncommon beauty. Her eyes had caught their tinge from the violets that open to the eye of spring, in the edge of the woods—her cheeks were changing as the soft clouds of a July noon, half fleecy, half roseate, cushioned languidly on the light-blue sky. Her baby forehead seemed purely radiant with the smile of her guardian angel, half shadowed by curls of mingled chestnut and gold; but a smile, all her own, twinkling in her eyes and dimpling in her cheeks, linked her to earth and to all hearts *so* lovingly! Every one marked the child, at first glance, as a pearl of exceeding price.

Cynics may sneer at it as they will; beauty *is* the "open sesame" to the universal human heart; and there is no beauty so sweetly winning—so like a dew-drop purely fresh from Heaven, glowing in its glory yet, as the beauty of a little child!

When she was carried to the city, the home of her grand-parents, her tottering steps were often arrested in the streets by strangers, who pressed forward to exclaim, involuntarily, "What a beautiful child!" "An angel!" "She's not for earth, long, sure!"

This last foreboding seemed to grow into a presentiment in the mind of the grandfather. In vain did the laughing eyes of little Ellen look into his, mocking all his fears. In vain did he see that she was springing up as healthy and hardy as a wild rose or a prairie chicken; he pressed back her curls always anxiously, and looked intently into her face, often pressing her in his rough arms, as though he feared that some unseen hand would snatch her away even then.

"Little pet! take care of her! don't let anything come to her, John!" was his last parting charge, as he kissed her on both rosy cheeks and lifted her carefully into the wagon after her parents.

"Never you fear, father; you'll see how she shall spring up in the prairie-grass!"

"Well, well; God knows!" replied the grandfather, drawing his left sleeve across his eyes. "Good bye, and bless you all!"

Two evenings previous to the one of our stay at the log tavern, John Waring went out to his barn, to secure his cattle for the night, and go through that indescribable routine of duties which the farmer comprises under the convenient name of "chores." Little Ellen plead to go over with him. She had been building cob-castles before the hearth till a peony flush bloomed on one hot little cheek; and then, tired of her play, she had been tottling around in the wake of her busy mamma's footsteps, clinging restlessly to her dress.

"Stay by papa, Ellie, pet!" said the mother, as she tied the little blue hood under her chin, and pinned a warm, white blanket over the bare, dimpling shoulders. "Ellie go with papa!" laughed the little fairy, dancing gleefully under her mother's hands. "Come, Ellie," called her papa, reaching out his hand as he fastened the last button of his working frock. She sprang to him, and swung her little self out of the door by his strong forefinger. The barn was just across the road from the house. Skipping up the platform, through the unfolding leaves of the great barn-door, she clapped her baby-hands to the scampering chickens, shouted to the echoes, climbed up to peep through the rails at the "red calf," and scrambled down in terror of the cow's nervously shaking horns. At last she trotted away, quite demurely, in pursuit of hens' nests, tossing and tumbling on the new-made hay, warbling like a merry barn swallow all the while. The father was in and out, here and there, occupied with his varying business.

The sun went down, and the shadows of the long, dimly-lighted rafters began to deepen and blacken. With half a sigh of weariness, the little one rolled off the soft hay-mow.

"Come in house, papa; Ellie tired!" she besought, looking up coaxingly into his face.

"Is Ellie tired? Ellie may go to mamma, then." He stooped to kiss her cheek, swung back the door, opened the gate, and saw her toddle through it, and turned again to his unfinished work.

Half an hour passed, and he walked, whistling carelessly, toward the house, the duties and the toils of the day all over. His wife turned hastily toward him, as he set down the brimming milk-pail upon the well-scoured pine table—

"What have you done with Ellie? *It's* late for her to be out."

"Ellen! why, I sent her in half an hour ago!" he exclaimed, startled.

"You sent her in? She has not been here! I have not seen her!" returned the mother—and flinging open the door, she called quickly, "Ellen!"

The sound rang shrill over the prairie, and echoed loudly and lingeringly from the blank walls of the barn; but no Ellen's voice gave answer. The mother clasped her hands, and a quiver of agony trembled on her compressed lips.

"Don't be frightened, Mary—she's strayed a bit down the path, it's likely! I'll bring her in a minute or two."

John Waring sprang over the steps as he spoke, and rushed out of her sight, around the corner of the barn.

"Ellen! Ellie, pet! Ellie, dear!" he called and called again, and he listened for an answer until his ears ached and his brain reeled with the utter stillness. Then he plunged into the long, wild prairie grass, trampling down the purple and golden flowers like weeds.

"Where is she? *where is she?*" breathed the mother, with a suppressed shriek, as her husband burst open the door again, in the gathering night.

"Mary," he uttered, in a tone of agony, "she is not to be found! Give me the bridle, quick! I must go for help before it grows too late. Oh, God! there is no moon to-night! Mary, dear Mary!" he added, catching one look of her anguish-frozen face, "we *shall* find her yet! God *will* keep her—don't lose heart!"

"Oh, John! she is our only one! God *could* not take her away!" whispered the mother, huskily. A quick, sympathizing glance was all her husband's reply, as he opened the door and rushed forth.

Mary Waring listened till the last echo of his horse's hoof-beats had died away on the still prairie, and there was only the beating of her own heart to break the strange, heavy silence. She still stood in the doorway, heedless of the cold, damp night-breeze that played among her locks. Her hands were clasped tremulously, in that attitude, half of hope, half of hopelessness, which sculptors have so often striven to petrify. There seemed scarcely a ripple of breath to flow from her parted lips, and her eyes were intently piercing the darkness, to where a lone star, the evening star, had arisen, red in the cloud-mists of the horizon. Starting with a quick sob from her reverie, she called with a half despairing cry—"Ellie! Ellie! my child!"

She listened. The echo muttered back her call confusedly, and died away into silence.

"Ellie, darling, come to mamma!" she called, more gently, as though fearing to have frightened her little one by the former wild cry; but all was unheeded!

She took two wavering steps from the door; then a sudden crackling of the fire-log called her back, and aroused her to a second thought.

"No, I must not go out!" she exclaimed, throwing herself down upon the hearth; "I could not track the dear creature where *he* has failed, and I must even wait! Oh, God! give me patience and strength!"

That prayer never was raised in vain! Mary Waring grew calmer as she sat, with her head buried in her apron, motionless as a statue, save the convulsive quivering of her lips and chest.

How many minutes had thus passed, she knew not; but a hand on the latch-string startled her to her feet in an instant. It was the wife of her nearest neighbor, who came in, with a checked gray and white blanket-shawl folded around her head and shoulders.

"Dear me, Miss Warin', an't you dreadful lonesome-like! Mr. Warin', he came a thunderin' up to our steps, and I says to Humphrey, says I, there's somebody took sick on a sudden, and they've sent for me! I hadn't no more than rolled the words off of my tongue, afore John hursted the door-nail; and, says he—all of a tremble he was—says he, 'Mr. Humphrey, will you do a neighbor a kind turn? My child is astray on the prairie!' Sorry coots we would ha' been, if we hadn't bustled about to help a neighbor in time o' trouble! Humphrey fetched up old Sorrel in a twinkle, while John drove ahead to Warner's. Says I to Humphrey, it's distracted-like Mary Warin' will be, poor, lone body, takin' on over her baby; and, says I, being all she had, and the beautifullest creatur', too, that ever"—

"Oh, *don't*, Mrs. Humphrey!" exclaimed Mary, breaking, for the first time, the tangled string of her well-meaning visiter's would-be consolations.

"There! well, I didn't mean to rake up your feelin's dear! but, all is, says I to Humphrey, I'll slip on my shawl in a jiffy, and trot across to Mary's. She oughtn't to be alone this while, and I'll cheer her up to hoping a bit, may be!"

Some less garrulous comforter would have been more congenial to poor Mary, in her hour of silent sorrow. But she was grateful for the good will that prompted her neighbor's visit; and she knew that it is not always good for the grief-stricken heart to be alone. So she strove to smile thankfully, and even to converse with her chattering guest, though every sound grated on her nervous ears, that were aching to catch the slightest echo of a foot-fall without.

The coals crumbled low on the hearth, and Mary's hope went down with their gleam. Like the hum of a spinning-wheel, her companion's low, monotonous tone was ringing in her ears; but she took no note of her words, as she paced heavily across the boards, or, by a violent effort, forced herself to sit calmly a few moments in her rush rocking-chair. At intervals, a distant call startled both to the door, and they heard the name of "Ellen!" swell and die over the dry, whispering grass, while dim lanterns, like shooting stars, glanced and swayed in the distance. Not until morning did one of the anxious searchers enter the house, and then he brought no tidings.

That day, fifty men mounted on horseback, and as many on foot, tracked the prairie up and down, back and forth, for many miles. They pushed into the wood that skirted one edge of the farm, leaving not a stone or a log unturned, frightening every timid squirrel and partridge from its nook, with the one cry of "Ellen! little Ellen!"

That day and the next night passed as fruitlessly. On the second, which was the day of our arrival in the vicinity, one hundred and fifty horsemen, (you would not have supposed that the thinly-dotted prairie could have furnished that number, unless they had sprung up, like the armed men from the sown dragon's teeth,) followed in the traces of the others, and, like them, came back at night with the full conviction that they had left not a bush nor a sod untried or untrodden.

A message had at first been sent to the grand-parents; and, coming with all possible speed, they arrived on the morning of the third day. The poor father of the lost Ellen, worn out with fasting, watching, and agony, fell down in a swoon at his mother's feet, as he arose to receive her. Mary was more calm, and they said she felt the pang less keenly. Woman-like, she had learned to hide the thorn piercing her heart, and to smile while that heart was bleeding. That the child must have been stolen, seemed now to be the opinion of every one.

"Oh! I could bear to *know* that she is dead!" were almost the first words of John Waring, on recovering from his fainting fit; "but this uncertainty, this suspense, it will kill me!"

Who could have stolen the child, and with what motive, were questions not easily answered. Perhaps some stroller, who had caught a sight of her sweet face in the city—and the parents' hearts thrilled with new terror at the thought—an old Indian, wandering off in the neighborhood, who had sometimes been provided with a supper on their hearth, and a bed in their barn.

An advertisement was inserted in all the papers of the region, describing the lost child, and offering a large reward to any one who would bring tidings of her.

Still the search was kept up near home, though almost hopelessly. The neighbors could not rid their minds of the impression that some trace, some shred of her dress, some little shoe or shoe-track, might yet lead to the discovery of her body; the spirit must long since have taken wing.

One morning, it was nearly a week after the little one had left her home, one of these gleaners of a forlorn hope was pacing the prairie slowly, thinking of his own beloved children, and of the anguish-stricken parents in their loneliness, when his eye caught sight of a dark object, dimly seen through the waving meshes of the prairie sedge. He took one bound forward—and the veil of mystery was rent from little Ellen!

There she lay—there, cradled in a hollow between two hillocks of the prairie, so narrow as to be unobserved except in one direction, within one short half mile from her home, while her friends in tenderest tones were calling her, trampling all around, and almost upon her, sweet Ellen had lain, silent and cold, five freezing nights.

The man stood one moment, transfixed by the surprise and grief; then, with a deep-breathed groan, springing to the spot, he lifted up the stone-like form of the child, and looked into her face. It was like a waxen statue, in its pure, beautiful whiteness. The Angel of the Frost, who had opened the gate of Death to her spirit, had transfigured cheek and brow, when he breathed his chill blast upon them. She had dreamed a sweet dream before she awoke in Paradise, for a smile was frozen on her still face, like the first flash of a sunbeam after a shower. Her eyes, like half-opened violets, blighted by the storms of early spring, lay, weighed down with icy dew. She had wept before she had laid down to sleep, and to die. She had fallen upon her face, probably in very weariness; and the angels had looked down in pity—they had taken in the poor benighted little wanderer. The lips whence life had ebbed away were parted, as though, in a gentle, sweet surprise, she had heard the call—"Little Ellen! come home to Heaven!"

He untied the little blue hood, and parted back the curls, heavy with hoar frost and icicles. He tore away the blanket, and felt where the heart had throbbed; but life had frozen at its spring long before! The touch of the round, hard arm chilled his inmost nerves; but he lifted it, for it clasped something tightly in its palm. He unclenched the stiffened fingers, and took away the treasure—purple and white flowers of the prairie, wild asters and daisies, frozen, like herself, in her dying grasp.

Poor little thing! they told her story well enough. She had always loved flowers, bud of Paradise that she was; and when she had left her father's side, they had beckoned her, waving their bright heads among the tall grasses. She had loitered to pluck them—wandered on—grown weary—laid down to sleep—and waked in Heaven!

Suspense had nerved the parents' hearts to endure certainty. They looked on the shattered casket that had enshrined their treasure, and bowed to the dispensation of their God! But when the thought of that first night—the agonizing realization that she had been almost within hearing of the beating of their hearts, came ever them, it broke the seal of calmness, and the fountain of grief poured forth its deep bitterness unchecked.

The blighted blossom was bedewed with the tears of many an honest eye, that had seldom opened its sluice of sympathy. Rough men, who had almost forgotten how to weep, in the hardness of their life's rugged path, looked into her coffin, and drew their sleeves quickly across their brimming eyelids. Warm-hearted Irishwomen touched the golden curls, and ejaculated—"The darlint! Rest her soul wid the angels—avourneen!"

"'Suffer little children to come unto me,' said the Saviour, and *He* hath taken her!" whispered one, stooping to give the last kiss to the waxen lips, before they were sealed up to the morning of the Resurrection!

Ellen was buried near her home. The snows rest lightly on her grave now; but in summer time the grass waves whisperingly over her, and the daisies she died to gather dot her little mound. It was fitting that she, the fairest, purest, heavenliest flower of all, should sleep under the flowers of Prairie de la Fleur!

DEATH.

Died in the city of Brooklyn, near New York, February 27, RANSOM G. WILLIAMS, aged about 42, of inflammation of the lungs. Mr. W., for many years, had had a weakness of the lungs. Many years since he was publishing agent of the American Anti-Slavery Society, and he devoted himself with uncommon zeal and efficiency to the cause. He afterwards engaged in mercantile business, in which he was quite successful. For several years he was a member of the Executive Committee of the American and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, and never lost his interest in the great work of emancipation. Some of his last labors were devoted to the colored congregation in Prince street, and to the school and congregation at Cassville, Long Island. Mr. W. has left upwards of twenty thousand dollars to various objects of Christian benevolence: $3,500 to the American Missionary Association; $1,000 to the American and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society; $2,000 to the Oberlin Institute, &c. He was a conscientious and useful man, and died in the hope of a blessed immortality. L. T.

AGRICULTURAL GEOLOGY.—No. 12.

BY JOSIAH HOLBROOK.

Hornblend is more tough than hard. So its name indicates. It enters largely into rocks. Hornblend rocks form some of the most beautiful and sublime mountain and landscape scenery in the world. The Giant's Causeway, in the north-east part Ireland; the Palisades on the banks of the Hudson river; the Bluffs, called East and West Rock, each about two miles from New Haven, Connecticut; Mount Holyoke and Mount Tom, on the Connecticut river; the richest landscape scenery on the Columbia and other rivers in Oregon; and many other views, both rich and beautiful, in different parts of the world, are hornblend rocks. The scenery about Edinburgh, Scotland, is said to resemble very nearly that about New Haven, Connecticut, exhibited by the same geological formation—basaltic columns. In both these cities it is the common and almost only building material, admirably fitted for the gothic style of architecture. Some poet said of the citizens of Edinburgh, who have very much impaired the natural scenery about the city for the purposes of architecture, that they had so little taste that they sold the sublime and beautiful by the cartload. These columns are very much in the form of hexedral prisms, from six inches to a foot or two in diameter. The length of the blocks forming the prisms are frequently about equal to their diameter. Each block is concave or hollowed at one end, and convex or rounded at the other, the concave and the convex surfaces exactly fitting each other. The sides of the prisms are also as exactly fitted as the cells of the honeycomb, and of the same shape.

The most remarkable exhibition of this natural mountain mechanism is in the Giant's Causeway, where these hexedral columns, so perfectly matched, cover a great surface, and rise to the height of two or three hundred feet. The inhabitants of the country, at some ancient period, supposed it to be the work of a race of giants living there at a period still more ancient.

The property of toughness in hornblend very much modifies the character of the rocks of which it forms a part. For many purposes they are the most durable of all rocky formations. The Russ pavements, introduced into New York, are formed of a rock from Staten Island almost entirely hornblend, having a little quartz in fine grains interspersed through the mass. Though called Staten Island granite, it is very different, and entirely superior to any granite formation correctly so called. No rock upon the globe could probably be found more durable or better fitted for such pavements than this hornblend rock taken from Staten Island.

EXPERIMENT.—Draw a circle by a pair of dividers. Not changing the distance of the legs, place one point in the circumference of the circle drawn, dividing it into equal parts. It will thus form in the circumference six points equally distant from each other. Unite these points by lines drawn by the dividers, and the result will be a regular hexagon, showing the shape of basaltic columns, quartz, crystals, beryl, emerald, apatite, cells of the honeycomb, and many other specimens of "NATURAL MECHANISM."

For the National Era.

RELATIONS BETWEEN GOVERNMENTS, AND THE Proper Mode of Establishing Justice among them.

BY JOHN B. BEACH.

No. VI.—Obstacles to a Federal Union of Nations.

No one, we presume, will venture to deny, that if there existed a code of international law, well digested, embodying only principles of natural justice, sanctioned by adequate penalties, and adopted by the free consent and choice of the great Powers of the world, it would constitute a basis upon which such confederated States might hope prosperously and permanently to rest. The example of our own Federal Union is entirely in point, and may justly be regarded as settling this whole controversy. It is constituted according to the doctrine, that Force is a miserable safeguard of the rights of States, and Law the only sure guarantee of public security. Accordingly we find that thirteen independent nations, in the stormiest period of the world's history, confederating and resting together upon the simple platform of Law, have existed prosperously and harmoniously for three-fourths of a century; during which period, eighteen other independent Powers have, at different times, joined the original thirteen; so that now the world sees thirty-one stars of different magnitudes bound peacefully into a compact system by the predominating, all-pervading influence of one grand central Luminary: that Luminary is Law, embodied in a municipal Constitution.

And our history triumphantly shows that Federal Law is an effectual defence of State rights; for nowhere do our annals point to a period when it was necessary for a State to arm herself against a sister State, either for the purpose of asserting the rights of her own citizens, or of repelling a hostile invasion. This illustrious example ought therefore to convince the world that a similar plan of Union, modified to suit the exigencies of the case, might be adopted by nations which now maintain an independent and distrustful attitude with respect to each other.

But, says an objector, the world is not prepared for so radical a movement. In consequence of the general prevalence of ignorance, its importance is not, nor is likely to be, sufficiently appreciated by ruler and subject, to warrant any rational belief on our part in its practicability. Indeed! then what is to be done? Must the political world forever continue as it is at the present hour? Evidently not. Inspiration, as well as the changeless law of society, points us to a brighter day. Let us, however, always bear in mind this important truth, (the more important from our disposition to overlook it,) that *human instrumentalities*, Heaven-inspired, are to *create* that happy day.

It is readily granted that the existence of so much ignorance in relation to war and its evils, is a great hindrance to the adoption of the proposed measure. Were the inhabitants of Christendom generally enlightened on these points, we might expect soon to see them gradually fall in with this movement; but no one, it is presumed, not even the most sanguine, expects to see it crowned with complete success the next month or the next year. It is a project of great magnitude, such as always advances slowly, and yet always *keeps advancing*. We are confident, however, that in no other enterprise of corresponding importance was persevering effort ever attended with more cheering success, than that which already crowns the labors of such men as Worcester, Ladd, Burritt, Cobden, Lamartine, Jay, Sumner, and Channing.

When it is shown that the prevalent ignorance *cannot be removed*, then only let us cease to hope; then it will be time to talk of *impossibilities*. But, knowing that Truth is the antagonism of ignorance and error, the duty of us who hold the Truth on this subject is quite manifest: to sit no longer paralyzed by self-created spectres of Impracticability; but to arise, and, like true-hearted men, address ourselves to the work of enlightening the public mind. We beseech you, reader, do not get befogged just at this critical point. Remember, it belongs to the creed of all who are *truly men*, that every Just measure is also Possible. Believe *that* with a Heaven-inspired faith, and you become one of the true Heroes; believe less than that you cannot, without forfeiting your God-given title to manhood.

That a vast accumulation of facts seemingly lie opposed to our theory, we do not care to deny. It is too true that nations are unhappily divided in sympathy and interest. To maintain a degree of self-respect, and to gratify a feeling of national pride, Governments between which there exists no dangerous collision of interests, generally we, believe, observe a cold and distant civility in their diplomatic correspondence; but so beautiful a thing as love, interlinking and binding together distinct nations, has never yet been realized beneath the stars; whilst even the common courtesies demanded by a purely selfish international code are often sadly neglected in the public intercourse of States.

We appreciate, perhaps as fully as others, the obstacles to the unity of mankind interposed by the diversity of races, religions, creeds, rituals, customs, and languages. We feel seriously embarrassed by the hereditary prejudices, feuds, and antipathies, which prevail so extensively in all States, as well as by the laws and ordinances of which these are the foundation.

But with a distinct perception and realization of all these painful facts, we still urge our plan as a highly *practicable* one—indeed, as the *only* practicable one; for "who does not know," says the great Milton, "that Truth is STRONG, NEXT TO THE ALMIGHTY?" and that Justice *alone* is conservable? Who doubts that all those impediments are such as to vanish before appropriate influences, which are at the command of all true-hearted men? Who does not perceive that the prime obstacle, out of which all others grow, is the misunderstandings of the Human Family? Communities do not understand each other: mutual distrust springs from ignorance: hostility from distrust; and propagates itself in unenlightened minds. Only give the world light, and war becomes impossible. *Popular ignorance is the sole basis upon which this stupendous system rests.* Convince the people that universal peace is the Law of Nature, as well as of Revelation; that its violation in any case, or for any consideration, is invariably and necessarily attended with the same fearful results as flow from the infringement of any other ordinance of God; that the Human Brotherhood is not a gaunt abstraction, as many suppose, but a solemn and tangible Reality—a veritable and mysterious Being, whose rights and sympathies and interests are guarded with fearful vigilance by an Eye that never sleeps, and an Arm that never tires. Show them how War necessarily paralyzes the industry of nations; misdirects productive labor; destroys public and private property; sinks the national wealth; increases the burdens of taxation; hazards the existence of States; undermines the foundations of popular liberty; brutalizes the populace; engenders hereditary antipathy between nations naturally united, and annihilates the revenues of the world. Satisfy them that it is a measure which redresses not wrongs, but perpetrates them; which indemnifies not losses, but multiplies them; which is not necessary to secure the national defence, nor to extend the principles of sound Government, nor to assert and maintain the right, nor to carry out the plans of Divine Providence. Point them to that dreadful six thousand years' experience, written in tears and blood by the deep-graving pen of History; and hid them reflect, reason, and judge. Lift before their eyes the curtain which conceals the machinery of this world-bewitching Tragedy of Devils: let them gaze steadily upon that horrid drapery—surges of fire and "garments rolled in blood:" the charm which fascinated their minds is broken forever!

[TO BE CONCLUDED IN OUR NEXT.]

CINCINNATI ANTI-SLAVERY CONVENTION.

The Anti-Slavery Sewing Circle of Cincinnati earnestly invite all who advocate the doctrine that slaveholding is a violation of God's law, and a cruel wrong to man, and therefore that slavery ought to be immediately abolished, to meet in Convention in the city of Cincinnati, on the 14th, 15th, 16th, and 17th days of April next, (1851,) to take into consideration the present and prospective condition of the Anti-Slavery cause, and to counsel together on one common platform, in respect to the evils to be opposed, the difficulties to be surmounted, and the proper means and measures for maintaining and sustaining their principles practically and thoroughly.

There has never been a moment when Christian philanthropists could have been justified in relaxing their vigilance in the cause of human freedom. But at no period of the Anti-Slavery enterprise has there been a greater demand for their watchfulness, and their earnest, energetic, bold, and persevering exertions, than at this time, when the mightiest powers of the civil Government are yet more strengthened for the support of slavery by the aid of the highest talents and the combined influence of the American Church.

It is painful to reflect upon the fact, that after eighteen hundred years of the promulgation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, who came to preach deliverance to the captive, and whose very title of Redeemer is a standing condemnation of slavery, the first principles of Christianity should be so little understood and felt, that three millions of the human family are now held in the most abject servitude under the laws and institutions of a Government whose Constitution allows more freedom of conscience than any other upon earth, and with the sanction of a church that glories in its independence of the civil power. It is distressing beyond measure to see great statesmen and learned doctors of divinity putting forth all the strength and power of their mighty intellects to dry up the fountains of human sympathy, and deliver the poor panting fugitive to the tender mercies of the despot who claims him for his slave.

In the mortification and distress of our hearts, in view of this unhallowed combination, we call upon the friends of humanity to rally in defence of all that is right and true in the principles of civil and divine law. Let no slight considerations, beloved friends, prevent your attendance. The cries of humanity, the voice of your brother's blood, and the claims of Christianity, call upon you to make every sacrifice needful to accomplish the great object which you profess to have near your hearts, and to do all you can to deliver them who are bound out of the hands of the spoiler.

The weapons of our warfare not being carnal, but mighty, through God, to the pulling down of strongholds, we may with certainty calculate upon a glorious triumph, if we battle together in the unity of the Spirit and the bonds of peace, wielding with boldness the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

For Christ and humanity,

SARAH H. ERNST, *President*.
M. M. GUILD, *Secretary*.

Cincinnati, February 12, 1851.

THE DIFFERENCE.

BOSTON, MASS., *March* 4, 1851.

To the Editor of the National Era:

I frequently hear it asserted that the law of 1850, for the recovery of fugitive slaves, does not materially differ from that of 1793, and that neither enactment requires anything more of the North than the performance of its constitutional obligations. Regarding both these propositions as false and mischievous, as tending to reconcile the public to the present state of the law, I wish, if you will give me room in your paper, to state, briefly, the points of difference between the two States, and the points wherein the statute of 1850 transcends the requirements of the Constitution.

1. The law of 1793, as expounded by the Supreme Court of the United States, imposed *no duty* upon a free State, or upon any citizen of a free State, except upon certain officers; and, as they occupied their places voluntarily, it may with truth be said that, under that law, a man could live in a free State without participating in the business of making men who, through deadly peril, had won their freedom, slaves again. The amount of the enactment of 1793 was, that if a slave escaped into a free State, his owner might, carrying with him from home, or engaging in the State to which the slave had fled, such voluntary aid as he should find needful, take him away, without becoming liable to the penalties for kidnapping. By that law, freemen were not required to become slave-hunters or slave-catchers. They performed their whole duty if they offered no opposition when the slave-hunter would hunt his prey upon their soil. By the law of 1850, the United States carries the fugitive back to slavery, and thus every citizen must participate in the deed. More than this—by that law every citizen is required, when called upon, to give his strength—the labor of his own free muscles—to the work.

2. Under the law of 1793, the trial, such as it was, of the question, whether the alleged fugitive were such, in fact, must be had in his presence; but by the law of 1850, that question may be settled a thousand miles away from him, and, before he knows he is claimed, a tribunal, of which he never heard, may have doomed him and his posterity to perpetual servitude. Already, if we may credit the newspaper statement, a man has been taken from one of the Western States, who had been manumitted. The court before which he was brought refused to give him time to send a few miles for the documentary evidence of his freedom, because a trial, in the State from which he was said to have fled, had already decided that he was a slave, leaving nothing but the question of identity to be tried at the place of his capture.

3. There was nothing in the law of 1793 to prevent both the claimant and the alleged fugitive being examined at the trial; but by the law of 1850, while the claimant may be heard, the victim must be dumb.

4. The law of 1793 intrusted the trial of a question, second in importance only to that which involves life, to the lowest tribunals known to the law—to tribunals which, in Massachusetts, and I believe in the free States generally, are not permitted to try civil causes involving more than twenty dollars, and that subject to appeal. This was bad enough, but there was no premium offered for corruption. The law of 1850, in like manner, intrusts the trial of this question to a tribunal that has final jurisdiction in nothing else beyond the taking of a deposition, and provides for the commissioner a fee of ten dollars if he shall come to the conclusion that the claimed is a slave, otherwise, five dollars.

5. The law of 1793 provided that the certificate of the magistrate should be a *sufficient* warrant for removing, &c.; the law of 1850 provides that such certificate shall be *conclusive* of the right so to remove, &c., and "*shall prevent all molestation by any process issued by any court, judge, magistrate, or other person whomsoever.*" Whether Congress has the constitutional power, in this case, to deny to the alleged fugitive the writ of *habeas corpus*, is perhaps not yet settled; but who that reads the language cited above can doubt that such was the intention?

Again the law of 1850 imposes upon the North obligations not imposed by the Constitution. Under this head I shall be careful to tread on no disputed ground. The Constitution provides, simply, that the escaped slave shall be given up upon claim; that is, shall not be withheld, nor by law nor in any manner protected against the master. No one will say that it requires that he shall be carried back, either by the United States or the State to which he may have fled.

The Constitution does not require that the right of the claimant to the alleged fugitive should be tried without notice to him. It does not require that the claimant should be heard at the trial, and the claimed be silent. It does not require that the trial should be without any of the ordinary securities and safeguards of justice and right. It does not require us to offer a bribe to the court. It does not prohibit, if it does not enjoin, a trial by jury. And thus, in each of these particulars, in assenting to the law of 1850, the North has yielded more than its constitutional obligations required.

This enactment requires of the citizens of the free States what, as men and Christians, they cannot perform. Its burdens are too great to be borne. Are we, when the foot of the panting fugitive has touched our soil, to leave our farms, and work-shops, and fire-sides, at the command of his pursuer, to hunt him like a beast of prey, among our free hills and woods? God forbid!

I belong to that very numerous class of persons who would have the North abide by and perform all its constitutional obligations, justly and fairly, but at the same time, upon this subject of slavery, would have it claim all its constitutional rights, *calmly, firmly, perseveringly*—never yielding so much as "the twentieth part of one poor scruple" of what is not in the bond. J. C. D.

"EUROPEAN WORLD."

To the Editor of the National Era:

I have been much instructed by the articles of your able correspondent, "Liberalist," on the "European World." How correct his inferences may be, time will determine; but he evinces an acquaintance with European affairs which induces me to request him (if I may do it without trespassing) to give us something on the nature of the European Governments—their relations to each other, alliances, &c. We read of Germany; but where and what is Germany? We are told that Prussia and Austria are German States; and yet that Austria is not all in Germany. The same is true of Italy. We hear of Italy and the Italian States, and yet learn of Austria's having much to do with their Government. A reader of European papers is constantly asking such questions as the following: What is Germany? Italy? Denmark? By what treaty stipulations or alliances has Great Britain a right to interfere with the Governments of Europe, especially with Greece? If your correspondent will write an article or two on these subjects, he will much gratify and enlighten. A SUBSCRIBER.

Providence, March 3, 1851.

LETTER FROM CINCINNATI.

CINCINNATI, *February* 24, 1851.

To the Editor of the National Era:

DEAR SIR: I have read your able article on "the duty of anti-slavery voters." Its first column portrays vividly the desperate condition of our country in reference to Freedom; but we *here* do not understand your remedy. While reading your article a second time, a Free-Soiler from Kentucky came in, and exclaimed, "Good God, sir, if you Free-Soilers allow yourselves to be mixed up with the old parties, slavery will not only extend over all new territory, but Ohio will finally accept the institution." He then spoke of your article as one that he could not understand, and said that, in recent conversation with Southern men, they were sanguine in the belief that all the Western States would finally establish slavery.

May I repeat some of your questions? What is to be done? Shall we all pass under the yoke, and acknowledge ourselves conquered? You answer: "We can vote our principles into office;" and you take for granted that a majority of the people are resolved to do so; but still the question recurs, "How is it to be done? Here, I think, some of us may differ; and hence the importance of correspondence, conference, and coöperation, if possible.

You say that we need no "National Convention or other extraordinary national movement," except "using our influence *wisely* in our respective States." On that word, wisely, hangs the difficulty of determining our action. What is it wise to do in the desperate circumstances by which we are surrounded? Compromisers and slaveholders, you say, have waived all questions of minor importance, and united to sustain and extend slavery. In Missouri, Democrats elected a Whig Senator; in Rhode Island, Whigs elected a Democrat; and in other States, you might have added, the great object with Whigs and Democrats is to kill off Free-Soil principles—that being the only question on which they can unite.

And now, if I understand you, Free-Soilers should profit by the example of their opponents, lay aside all minor questions of politics, and unite for liberty. In this we concur; but can it be done without some "extraordinary" State or "National movement?"

Bear in mind that we may differ in opinion without separating or being censured, and that I do not advocate especially a reorganization of the old Liberty party; yet, in passing, I must say that there has been a sad lowering of Freedom's standard since that party handed over its credentials to the Free Soil party. Until now it is quite a thing to rejoice over, when a man can be found to avow doctrines as free as were adopted by Whig and Democratic Legislatures in the palmy days of the Liberty party, and which doctrines we then thought too far below the demand of the times to be noticed favorably.

But to proceed. Would you have us, in Ohio, unite with Democrats or Whigs? I take Ohio as an example. The great object of those parties is to secure ascendency in the National Government. It is the same in all the free States. Leading Whigs and Democrats know, that if Free Soil principles prevail, they have no chance for prominence; they have sinned too much—they could not look upon advocates for liberty, and ask to be trusted. Hence the influence that controls those parties will be opposed to reform from instinct, and they will lead their parties to act with slaveholders so long as either retains its present organization. Then, if we go into those parties, we must vote for their nominees; that is virtually the pledge of persons attending their conventions; such is well understood to be the course of those acting with a party in good faith; and here is our objection to a union between Free-Soilers and Whigs or Democrats, since such a union, though intended to be for local purposes, and temporary, would virtually build up the National parties and hold up the hands of our enemies.

What cares Webster, Cass, or Foote, how many Free-Soilers are scattered among their several parties, even though accident should occasionally elect a Senator or Congressman, so long as there is no distinct organized opposition to either of the pro-slavery parties, and the very men who help to elect an anti-slavery man to Congress are also found electing and sustaining a bitter pro-slavery National Administration. A few Free Soil Senators or Congressmen, who may sometimes owe their elections more to combinations of hostile elements than to Free Soil votes, can do no harm to the dominant parties—they can carry no measures for good, nor prevent any measures for evil; nor is it their fault that it is so; but, that such is the fact, the history of the past abundantly proves. And by uniting with either of these parties we could not avoid giving them influence for harm, either directly or indirectly, in the State as well as in the National Administration.

We said the object of Whig and Democratic parties, in free States, was success in their party elections; in slave States, their object is the perpetuation of slavery. Take the New York *Tribune* and Boston *Atlas*, two of the most anti-slavery of the Whig papers. They rejoice at the defeat of Benton, on account of his "color of an idea" in favor of freedom, and in the election of a Whig, who is out and out pro-slavery. They cry "good," at the defeat of Sumner, a Free-Soiler, though from the Whig ranks, and would risk the election of a pro-slavery man of either party in preference to one who is equal to Webster in talent, and far his superior in integrity.

If we take Corwin and Seward, the best samples of Whigery, we have the same picture. They used their mighty powers to persuade the lovers of Freedom to vote for Taylor and Fillmore, as a means of sustaining Freedom and Free Soil. One of the arguments was, that Fillmore, being a Free Soil Whig, would secure Freedom if Taylor should follow Harrison to the grave. Well, they succeeded, and where are they now? After all the flattery from Free-Soilers of Corwin's *noble free impulses*, a member of Congress is authorized to say that Corwin goes the whole for the sacrifices, Fugitive law and all. And well he might, after sitting six long months a witness to the desperate attacks of Clay and others on the liberty and institutions of his country, without opening his mouth to defend or warn her; while Seward, though occasionally advocating Freedom, nowhere intimates that he will ever oppose Whig nominations, or any Whig Administration that may be elected. He was potent in his influence to put a pro-slavery Administration in power, and he and they may well laugh at his impotent struggle to hinder their wicked influence.

There, sir, are your very best specimens of Whig statesmen and editors, while the great majority of both are committed to the support of all the sacrifice measures, Fugitive law and all. Could you expect men who see things in this light, and are honestly the advocates of liberty, to act in concert with such a Whig party, for the sake of getting a score or so of their own into office, where their influence is not half as great for good as when they mingle and labor for the right among the people?

But we turn to the Democratic party, and allow you to select two prominent men, and two leading papers from those who acknowledge themselves members of the party. Go into their conventions and aid in nominations, you cannot find specimens more favorable to liberty than the Whig examples I have given. If either were a particle better, they would be turned out of their parties, while the proper samples of both parties are to be found in Webster and Cass, the Intelligencer, Republic, and Union; and we again ask, can we appeal to the honesty of liberty-loving freemen, and urge them to support either of those parties?

I have heard of a lady who married a rake to reform him; and of another, who married a persisting suitor to get rid of him; but I would not advise a female friend to follow such an example. Nor would I advise Free-Soilers to unite with Whigs or Democrats, "as more likely to (reform) impress either, regenerating or absorbing it," (getting clear of it.) It would be a poor school to learn in; for whenever those parties "hold other issues in abeyance, and treat Slavery as a paramount question," it will be, as it ever has been, for the propagation, and not for the suppression, of Slavery. Such a result follows, from the very nature of things, while those exist, because that portion of each that has governed and will govern each, cannot act with any party that refuses to nationalize Slavery; and the party so refusing to nationalize it would cease to be either the Whig or Democratic party, according to the general acceptation of those names; and it is of no use to show them by the dictionary what these terms meant in other days. They mean now the two great National parties, whose great object is to retain power by nationalizing Slavery and extending it.

But, you say, the question of the next Presidency must come up soon, and then positions and principles must be defined. With deference, allow me to say, that such periods have hitherto been the most noted for obscuration of position and principle; and I see nothing warranting the hope of improvement in this particular. But before that time, say the spring of 1852, Congress will have sat long enough to admit any number of slave States, and double the rank and file of our army, keeping it all in motion to enforce the Fugitive law, catch fugitive slaves, and stop the great free pulse that is sending its throbbings for liberty all over the land. And mark, sir, this warning: unless there is some great movement to operate its restraining influence upon your next Congress, its measures will be more marked with subservience to the Slave Power's demands than any of its predecessors.

But can you tell us how we can bring about a union of the friends of Liberty in favor of a President of the right stamp, unless we have some pretty considerable National movement, that the People may confer together? It is not presumed that any plan is to be concocted by any small number, and the People called upon to register it. You and I have long struggled for the same great end, *human liberty*; and I shall not probably tire you again with a long letter. But we here (and I speak the sentiment of all with whom I converse) want such action as will promote union and zeal among the friends of Liberty. We believe the large majority of the People are right on this question; but they are scattered, do not know each other or their own strength, and the influences against discussion are so powerful and numerous, that little has been said, and men are in danger of becoming used to despotism. We insist on early measures to warn the people against the tendency of both Whig and Democratic measures, and the importance of prompt and energetic action in the right direction. Nor need you be surprised if you hear that a few people without leaders shall have entered the field at an early day, to keep the field until every vestige of National legislation in favor of Slavery is repealed.

There is a great free heart beating in the bosoms of a million freemen in our country, that cannot be hushed by all the traitors who have sold themselves to slaveholders and popular favor; and long after this feeble hand shall be cold in death, you will live to rejoice that millions refuse to wear the uniform of either of the pro-slavery parties, even for a time. We will not act in disguise. We are in the right, and will either succeed with our principles inscribed on our banner, or we will fall, with that banner and those principles floating over us.

We cannot have Whigs or Democrats pledged to Free Soil by words stronger than were Corwin and many other leading men of both parties previous to the last election. But for such pledges, the Free Soil nominee would have been elected. And yet we see that in every instance Freedom has been betrayed by those parties, and those most relied on; and who gave the strongest pledges for Liberty have been the most treacherous, and their treachery has been the most fatal. This mixing with the old parties, in certain cases, is the old game of questioning candidates, which you and I abandoned long since; and surely the lessons of the past eight years have not proved that we have so long been in error, and ought to take the back track.

I write plain, with the kindest feelings, and here leave the subject, for writing is not my department; but I beg you to ponder well this subject. Suppose yourself back in a good old-fashioned Anti-Slavery meeting in Ohio, how, think you, would they receive the proposition to unite with the Democratic or Whig parties, in hope of impressing them, or swallowing them up? Anti-Slavery Free-Soilers can yield our Whigery or Democracy, or any of the political topics that *divide* the old parties; (they don't divide on Slavery;) we have no "shibboleth," except our free principles and corresponding practice; these we cannot give up. We are Free-Soilers because we are Anti-Slavery, and cannot vote for either Whig or Democrat who acknowledges himself a member of either of the old parties. Such party affinity presumes party obligation to vote for their party nominees, (be they Webster, Cass, or any other,) and disqualifies him for representing Anti-Slavery men.

We can do more, *infinitely more*, by maintaining a pure political gospel, without electing a man for years, than we can by mixing idolatry with our gospel, and thereby securing an occasional election. The old parties laugh at the solitary votes of our friends in Congress; but they tremble when the People refuse to vote for those old parties at the ballot-box. May God direct us all!

THE NATIONAL ERA.

WASHINGTON, MARCH 13, 1851.

Agency for Claims.—We call attention to the advertisement of Mr. Gangewer, Agent for Claims. He will do all he promises.

European World.—The spirited author of the series of letters thus entitled, will permit us to say that we think he betrays a little prejudice, at least, against the English people. Able writers have a great deal to do in exasperating or allaying national antipathies.

Osage Orange Seed.—By a notice in our advertising columns, it will be seen that our friend Hinman, of Cincinnati, Ohio, has for sale a choice lot of this seed.

PUBLIC SERVANTS AND THEIR EMPLOYERS.

"If the friends of Mr. Webster, from their estimate of his public services, have voluntarily tendered to him a pecuniary compensation for the sacrifice which he has made by the acceptance of his present office, in the abandonment of the practice of his profession, in which he held the highest rank; and if Mr. Webster, after having devoted the labors of a long life, exceeded in industry, perseverance, and the highest intellectual exertion, by the labors of no man living, either in the duties of his profession or in the public services, finds himself at this period of his life in a condition to need, in the discharge of obligations such as every man owes to his family, some equivalents for the sacrifices which he has voluntarily made, it is difficult to conceive on what ground either the offer or the acceptance of such an equivalent can be justly complained of."—*Boston Daily Advertiser.*

It was not necessary for Mr. Webster to make any sacrifice of his interests. He might have continued the practice of his profession, and another man have filled, with honor to the country, the post he now occupies.

On one side, was professional eminence with a fortune, on the other, political influence and preferment with a competence. He chose for his portion, political station, and the power, present and prospective, it promised.

Plain people will not be able to understand what sacrifice he made in all this, which laid his country or his friends under any special obligation. The idea of setting up a claim to public gratitude and extra compensation on the ground of having accepted an office, next in dignity and influence to that of President of the United States, is a Boston "notion" of the newest pattern.

The *Boston Courier* enters another plea in justification. It is disgusted with the republican simplicity, the economy of our Government.

"It has been thought," it says "not only discreditable to the Government, but highly prejudicial to the public interest, that this Department should be stinted to such beggarly means of doing the diplomatic honors of this great and prosperous nation, as are afforded by a salary of six thousand dollars a year. Certainly, if the work of the State Department is worth doing, it is worth doing well, and is worthy of being decently paid for. No one who knows anything of Washington and public business needs to be informed that the salary of the Secretary of State is next to nothing as to pay for the labor and cost of holding the office. Now, if it should so happen that any number of public-spirited persons in the United States, being desirous simply that the State Department should be kept in decent trim, and so maintained that every able man without a fortune should not be starved out of it—if it should so happen, we say, that these persons were to take measures, of their own accord, to meet any pecuniary exigencies arising in this Department, and were to hold their purses in readiness to keep the public servants free from embarrassment—we desire to know whether such a proceeding would not be a citizen-like and praiseworthy act."

A salary of six thousand a year will enable a gentleman of frugal habits to live comfortably and respectably in Washington, in the exercise of all ordinary hospitalities and courtesies; and, though a Secretary of State, he may entertain, as often as may be necessary, elegantly, if not sumptuously, his diplomatic friends. More than this ought not to be looked for from the functionaries of a Government, established, not for show, but for use; not by the will and for the benefit of a proud, vain-glorious, luxurious aristocracy, but by the will and for the benefit of a nation of freemen, plain, hardy, hard working, and of simple manners. If a Secretary of State cannot do as he would, let him do as he can, and if he cannot vie with the servant of a foreign Power, in the grandeur of his entertainments, let him not be ashamed to confess that the Sovereign he serves does not tolerate extravagance and luxury. We should set an example of manly simplicity to foreign courts, and not stoop to the meanness of attempting to rival their pageants.

But, these papers maintain that an officer of the Government may, without impropriety, receive pecuniary support from private individuals, either as a reward for supposed public services, or to enable him to live in a more imposing style than his regular salary permits. Let this become the usage, and what security could we have against favoritism and corruption on the part of those administering the Government?

Suppose an eminent citizen, nominated to the Supreme Bench, and hesitating about accepting the appointment, should consent to waive his objections, provided a fund of fifty thousand dollars were raised for him by a few moneyed men, in addition to the salary allowed him by law; would not the People pronounce that he had laid himself under an obligation repugnant to that absolute independence and impartiality demanded in the administration of justice?

Suppose the Iron and Coal Interests of Pennsylvania should bestow a fortune on the Secretary of the Interior, or the Secretary of the Treasury, on the pretext that the salary allowed him by law was insufficient for his support; would not every one feel that he had suffered himself to be placed under bonds to promote those interests, and that a natural feeling of gratitude would inevitably dispose him to favor them in preference to others? And what would the North have thought, had Mr. Buchanan, previously to entering the State Department, received a purse of fifty thousand dollars, made up by the slave owners of the South, as a reward for his eminent services, or to enable him to keep the Department "in decent trim?" Such a transaction would have covered Mr. Polk's Administration with infinitely more odium than the Galphin affair fastened upon the Cabinet of General Taylor.

Has not the broker who has given a Secretary of State five thousand dollars, a right to expect that he will not be overlooked in any money transaction of the Government under the superintendance of that officer; or, that a friend of his, being an applicant for office, may calculate pretty certainly on special attention to his claim? He may be disappointed, but, if he should be, it would be because his official friend had more or less virtue than falls to the lot of human nature generally. How can a man thrust his hand into the fire, and not be burned? A Secretary of State has no right to expect a miracle to save him from a temptation to which he voluntarily subjects himself. Better live in poverty, than under pecuniary obligation. It is for the People, through their representatives, to provide by law for the support of those who serve them. They have done so, and, in doing so, they have endeavored to relieve their servants from dependence upon the charity of friends. "Public-spirited persons" would do wisely to respect their will, and not impute to them a niggardly economy. The officers of the Government are responsible to the People, but if permitted to draw their support from individuals or classes, this responsibility will be weakened, and a portion of their allegiance be insensibly transferred to voluntary benefactors.

If it be proper for Mr. Webster to be supported by "public spirited persons," it is proper for the other members of the Cabinet, some of them much poorer than himself. What a spectacle would be presented to the American People, should the disclosure be made that every member of the Cabinet, in testimony of his great services, and to enable him, despite the niggardly economy of the People, to keep his Department "in decent trim," had received from twenty-five to fifty thousand dollars, made up from "certain public-spirited persons," connected with the Navy, with the Army, with the Coal and Iron interests, &c.; and that, to aid the President "in doing the diplomatic business of this great and prosperous nation," the Slaveholders had agreed to add from their own resources twenty-five thousand dollars to his present salary! Could an Administration thus bought do anything less than consult the will and interests of its purchasers?

If evidence were needed to show the degeneracy of the times, it would be found in the manner in which the Whig and Democratic papers have generally treated the transaction on which we are commenting. Many of the best of them openly justify it, on grounds repugnant to every principle of true Republicanism, and insulting to the People; while many others are silent or indifferent. For ourselves, we hold that the purity and safety of our institutions require that every officer of the Government keep himself clear, during his term of office, from pecuniary obligation to "public-spirited persons" or classes, as being at war with his allegiance to Popular Rights and Interests.

IMPROVEMENT OF THE COLORED PEOPLE.

The *New York Evening Post* publishes some important official documents respecting a movement in England in relation to the emigration of the free people of color from this country to the British West Indies, the object of the movement being to obtain an adequate supply of labor for the islands. The following is a copy of a circular despatch, transmitted by Lord Grey, Secretary of State, to the Governors of the Colonies:

"Downing Street, *October* 16, 1850.

"Sir: I have to acquaint you that it has been suggested to me that a desirable class of emigrants for the West India Colonies might be induced to come to them, from among the black and colored population of the United States, whose arrival and location, if they choose to come, would, I have no doubt, be advantageous both to themselves and to the Colonies.

"I am not aware of anything which can be done by the Colonial Governments to encourage such immigration, beyond showing a readiness to pass acts giving the privilege of naturalization to any such persons who might come to settle there, and providing that a bounty should be payable on such immigrants, under such arrangements as may be thought desirable.

"I would also suggest, as deserving of consideration, whether laws might not be passed, rendering binding, on certain conditions, engagements to pay sums of money which may have been agreed upon by immigrants, although such engagements may have been contracted in America, and while parties were in a state of slavery.

"I have, &c., Grey.

"*To the Officer administering the Government of the Leeward Islands,*" &c.

It is proposed that the emigration shall be carried on chiefly by individual enterprise, but such legislation is advised as shall promote it, and the attention of the Colonial Legislatures is directed to the following points:

"1. The settlement of American planters having capital and experience, as well as of colored laborers, should be encouraged, by affording them the utmost possible facility in obtaining the privileges of British subjects, by naturalization.

"2. With the same object, provision should be made by law for giving legal vitality to engagements entered into by immigrants, previously to their leaving America, to repay money advanced to enable them to settle in the British Colonies.

"3. The Colonial Legislatures should pass laws, similar in principle to those which have been passed in Mauritius and Trinidad, to allow of money being granted from the public revenue to pay for the introduction of immigrants, but providing that all immigrants so brought to the Colonies at the public expense should be required, for five years after their arrival, either to enter into yearly contracts to labor, on which a stamp duty should be charged, or else to pay a small monthly tax—the object of this regulation being both to stimulate the industry of the immigrants, and to obtain from them, directly or indirectly, the repayment of a part, at least, of what they had cost the Colony.

"Without any further interference on the part of the Colonial Legislatures than would be afforded by the above measures, the proposed immigration might, it is conceived, be carried on to a large extent, and with great advantage, by individuals, provided this were attempted judiciously."

As a necessary preliminary, measures will be taken to ascertain whether the Government of the United States will make any objection to the scheme.

We have little faith in the efficiency of Governmental schemes of emigration or colonization. The Government of Great Britain has been engaged for nearly fifteen years in the transportation of laborers to the islands, and in all that time the whole number introduced by its efforts has scarcely equalled the voluntary emigration from Europe to this country for one month.

We could wish that the colored people had more of that spirit of enterprise which animates the Anglo-Saxon race, making it the great colonizer and civilizer of the world. In our opposition to all projects of compulsory colonization, we fear we have unintentionally repressed the spirit of voluntary emigration among the colored people. African Colonization, at an early period, took such a form, and was advocated in such a way, as to array against it the hostility of a majority of active Anti-Slavery men. It became in too many instances the ally of Slavery, excusing or justifying its existence, setting its face against Emancipation, unless connected with transportation, disparaging the free people of color, discountenancing efforts for their elevation in their native land, and finding in proscriptive legislation against them not a fit subject for indignant rebuke, but a reason for their banishment.

These and kindred considerations were enough to decide our opinions against African Colonization; but they had nothing to do with the question of the voluntary emigration of colored people. It were well for them, had they more of the spirit of self-colonization. They see the white people about them with restless energies, constantly in motion, going from one place to another, from the walks of civilized life to the pathless wilderness, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, seeking all the while to better their condition.

They must become possessed with the same spirit of self-relying enterprise, before they can expect to command a respectable position anywhere. Passive submission to contumely and wrong will degrade and paralyze any race of people. It is no virtue to suffer when we can right ourselves. The colored people should go precisely where they can live most comfortably, not bearing degradation, when by changing their residence they can acquire respectability. The Pole who will not crouch under the hoof of Russian despotism, must seek freedom beyond its power. The Englishman, intolerant of the arrogance of a haughty aristocracy, the German wearied with the dead level of his monotonous existence, the Irishman, disgusted with filth and starvation, abandon the old familiar places, and begin a new life in a new world, where they may realize their highest aspirations; and their example does more for their countrymen whom they have left behind, than a century of suffering and degradation in common with them. Were we a colored man, we would never rest from our wanderings till we had found a place where our children might grow up into the dignity of a noble manhood, unconscious of inferiority, untaught to bow, except before the face of their Creator. If degraded in the city, we would flee to the country; if persecuted in one State, we would try another; if without hope in the States, we would pitch our tents in their uninhabited territory.

Let the colored people arouse themselves. "Who would be free, themselves must strike the blow." Let them educate themselves—rely upon themselves—act for themselves—learn to move in concert, and emulate the enterprise that is diffusing the Anglo-Saxon race over the world. God helps those who help themselves. Why should they remain still, when the whole world is in motion? Every successful effort at self-elevation, no matter whether made by them in California, Canada, Mexico, or the West Indies, will do more for their brethren in bondage at home, than any amount of meek submission to degradation. While the white population of Europe is colonizing the United States and Canada, why should not the colored population of the United States colonize Mexico and the West Indies? They can be citizens in both, equal in rights and dignity with native citizens; and their intelligence and familiarity with the art of self-government, would soon secure them the ascendency in both countries.

But let the Government keep its hand out of the business. Let the people of Jamaica and the other islands take measures for diffusing in this country correct and ample information concerning the advantages to be secured by colored emigrants in the West Indies. Let them hold out inducements powerful enough to start the tide of emigration. Let our colored people consider the subject for themselves, and, should they think favorably of it, organize bands of emigrants, for mutual counsel and protection, aspiring to do for the great West India archipelago what the European races are doing for this continent. It is a work worthy of their highest ambition, and it would tend to develop their energy and self-respect. They would then feel as if they too had a mission. No longer passive sufferers, looking to others for aid and protection, they would become active adventurers, relying upon their own strength, trusting to their own sagacity, and commanding the respect of mankind.

THE PROCLAMATION.

"Uneasy lies the head that wears a crown;" and Louis Napoleon can testify that Presidential chairs of Republics are not always comfortable lounging places. No mail of official dignity is proof against ridicule; no awfulness or solemnity of state can disarm criticism; the divinity which hedges Kings and Chief Magistrates affords no protection from newspaper caricature and the popular laugh. President Fillmore and his official advisers are no exceptions to this rule. The extraordinary zeal of their patriotism in a late pressing emergency, so far from securing for them an immunity from impertinent criticism, seems only to have provoked it.

It is said, for instance, that, judging from the President's Proclamation, and the corresponding orders of the Secretaries of the War and Naval Departments, and the tone of the debate in the United States Senate, a stranger to the facts in the case might have been pardoned for supposing that the good people of Boston had all turned rebels, hoisted the colonial Pine Tree flag on the towers of Faneuil and the old State House, and pitched custom-house officers and all manner of Government hangers-on into the same dock wherein their ancestors had flung the taxed tea! That the audacious old negro, who picked up with his sacrilegious black hands the symbolic sword of Justice dropped from the trembling fingers of Law in hysterics, had cast it, like another Brennus, into the scale of Revolution; and in consequence, Belknap and Brattle streets had been ridged with barricades like those of Vienna, leaving to President Fillmore and his great constitutional conscience-keeper no alternative but bombardment, after the fashion of Prince Windischgrats, or storm and sack, after that of the Ban Jellachich!

Yet it is said by these cavillers, and unhappily without contradiction, (indeed it has been *proved* by legal investigation,) that the facts are simply these: A professional negro-catcher comes to Boston, and lays claim to an inhabitant of the city, as the slave of somebody for whom he is agent. The man is arrested by a deputy marshal and a few auxiliaries of questionable standing, and while in his custody, some dozen or more of excited colored men contrive, without violence or bloodshed or the show of weapons, to effect his rescue. The news reaches Washington, and, without waiting for any official statement, and relying only upon telegraphic rumor, a Cabinet Council is held, a high-sounding Proclamation is issued; and army and navy are ordered to hold themselves in readiness for a descent upon Boston and its score of rebellious negroes! "In the name of the Prophet, figs!"

All well-disposed citizens and lovers of the Union must see at a glance that it will never do to leave matters in this position. No Government can stand against the measureless ridicule which this view of the case is provoking. The broadest of all possible grins is spreading from the Atlantic to the Lakes. The sides of the body politic are shaking. It is even doubtful whether a law prohibiting under severe pains and penalties all mirth at the expense of Government would now avail anything. What then shall be done?

It has occurred to us that Senator Badger indicated the true line of defence on the part of the Administration—viz: that the rescue of Shadrach is but one of a series of provocations, the added drop which has overrun Executive patience, the climax of an habitual fanaticism, which can only be reduced by the Sangrado practice of sabre and bayonet. The mischief began long ago; and the negligence or complicity of former Administrations only imposes a more imperative duty upon the present. It is supposed that the Southern Senator we have referred to had in his mind an event which transpired in 1794, when a person on trial as a fugitive from slavery in the city of Boston was rescued in open court and carried off in triumph, leaving sheriffs and constables flat upon their backs in the sanctuary of law. Most unhappily for the welfare of the Union and the sanctity of constitutional compromises, one George Washington was then at the head of the Government—a respectable Virginia gentleman, unfortunately somewhat tainted with Free Soil notions, and known to be in correspondence with certain abolition incendiaries on the other side of the water of the George Thompson stamp. There was no Union Committee at that time in the city of New York to remind the Executive of his duty; and he lacked what our present Chief Magistrate has so much reason to rejoice in, a great constitutional expounder to show the paramount importance of the Slave Interest and the absolute necessity of maintaining its ascendency at all hazards. We do not learn that his Secretary of State, one Edmund Randolph of *Old* Virginia, threatened to resign, unless Boston was menaced with siege and sack; Secretary Knox of the War Department, being a Massachusetts man of well-known revolutionary ideas, seems to have regarded the thing as a matter of course; and there is no document on the files of the Navy Department going to show that Secretary Cabot, another Massachusetts man, ordered out the marines for the recapture of the fugitive. Nothing of course could be expected from such men as Alexander Hamilton and Timothy Pickering. No Cabinet Council was called; there was no patriotic outpouring of Senatorial eloquence; Boston went unrebuked; no penitent officials made painful pilgrimages to the Seat of Government; no newspapers begged pardon; no Star Chamber trials of the rescuers followed. On the contrary, we are told by Josiah Quincy, who was more than suspected of rendering the fugitive aid and comfort, that there was a general feeling of satisfaction among the Boston people on the subject; and instead of arresting him on the charge of treason and hanging or at least imprisoning him, the infatuated and rebellious Bostonians sent this same Josiah Quincy as their Representative to the National Congress!

The escape of Shadrach is the legitimate fruit of this dereliction of duty on the part of George Washington and his Cabinet. And those who complain that the present Executive and Daniel Webster have overdone the matter, should consider that they are called upon to make amends for past negligence. What Washington and Hamilton and Randolph could not or would not see in 1794, is quite clear to the keener perceptions of the senior member of the Buffalo law-firm in 1851. What George Washington and Alexander Hamilton would not do then, Millard Fillmore and Daniel Webster are now doing! Doubtless it is "a disagreeable duty," but it is therefore all the more creditable to their patriotism.

Here, then, we rest the case. If, after this, anybody laughs at the President's Proclamation, he ought to be brought before the bar of the United States Senate, and made to listen to the solemn rebukes of all he venerable Presidential candidates in that august body. J. G. W.

THE RIVER AND HARBOR BILL—HOW IT WAS LOST.

The loss of the River and Harbor bill must excite indignation among the Western People, especially when they remember with what facility the Lighthouse bill for the benefit of navigation on the Atlantic coast passed through both Houses, in the last moments of the session, and how many millions were squandered on the Navy, the most useless branch of the public service. The commerce of our Lakes and Western Rivers, equal in value to our foreign commerce, suffers vast damage every year for want of safe and commodious harbors, and from obstructions which ordinary attention on the part of the Federal Government would easily remove.

The River and Harbor bill, which failed in the Senate from factious opposition, was not a perfect one. The aggregate of the appropriations, considering the present demands on the Treasury, was rather too large, and several improvements were embraced in its provisions, by no means national in their character. But, so great and urgent are the demands of our interior commerce, so long and shamefully have its interests been neglected, so niggardly have been the outlays for its benefit, that its real friends in Congress felt called to waive their constitutional scruples respecting particular improvements, and support the bill as a whole.

By the most strenuous efforts it was carried through the House, a large majority voting for it, and, on being taken up in the Senate, towards the close of the session, several test votes showed a majority there of eight or ten in its favor.

Southern men, generally of extreme opinions on the Slavery Question, led the opposition to the measure, and they were aided covertly by prominent Cass Democrats from the North, who insisted upon various amendments which, had they been adopted, would have given the opponents of the bill in the House full power to prevent its passage.

The device adopted by Southern men to defeat the bill, was to speak against time. After a full examination of its provisions, and with the ascertained fact staring them in the face that a majority of members in both Houses demanded its passage, they determined to prevent any vote upon the measure, though at the cost of the defeat of the Appropriation Bills and of an extra session of Congress.

From half-past eleven Monday till four o'clock Tuesday morning, Faction played its game without disguise. Mr. Clay, who had led on the majority, left the chamber near midnight, and Mr. Cass, who had dissented from the bill, but voted against laying it on the table, fearful of committing himself too far on one side or the other, drew his cloak about him at twelve o'clock, and retired, with the remark that, as the term of Congress in his opinion had expired, he had constitutional objections to further proceedings.

At four o'clock Tuesday morning, the majority gave way; the bill was laid upon the table and made the special order for eight o'clock, the effect of which was to secure to any bill that might then be under consideration, preference over it, unless postponed by a vote of the Senate. There remained to be acted upon, the Civil and Diplomatic bill, the Army and Navy Appropriation bills, and the bill for the relief of Mr. Ritchie, so that it was well understood that the River and Harbor bill would never be taken up again.

Mr. Chase of Ohio, who, though not approving some of the details of the measure, had given it a vigorous support, saw clearly that no hope remained for our Rivers and Harbors, unless through an amendment to the Civil and Diplomatic bill. He therefore took up the original River and Harbor bill reported to the House of Representatives by the Committee on Commerce on the 23d July last, which had been lying upon the tables of Senators, and also the report from the War Department prepared by Colonel Abert, Chief of the Bureau of Topographical Engineers, on the bill, which had been referred to the Department with a letter from the Chairman of the House Committee on Commerce, asking its opinions on the matters embraced in it. Aided by Mr. Hamlin, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Commerce, he carefully compared the bill and the report, striking from the former every item not expressly sanctioned by the latter. His object was, to obviate the objections of those Senators, especially the Democratic members from the West, who opposed the bill before the Senate, specially because some of its items had not been estimated for or sanctioned by the Department. The original House bill, thus revised and retrenched by him, still contained nearly every important appropriation proposed in the bill before the Senate, for the Lakes and Rivers of every Western State except Texas, for which no adequate surveys or estimates have yet been made. It appropriated for Lake Harbors in Ohio $130,000, for improvement of the Ohio above the Falls $80,000, for the Ohio below the Falls, the Mississippi, Arkansas, and Missouri rivers, $240,000: and its aggregate appropriations amounted to $1,736,000, less by $505,236 than the sum proposed in the bill sent from the House to the Senate.

Here then was a bill, economical, sufficient, and as unexceptionable as could be demanded.

At six o'clock in the morning, when but six hours remained for further action, while the Civil and Diplomatic bill was under discussion, and when it was certain that the postponed bill would not be taken up at eight o'clock, and could not be brought to a vote, should it be taken up, Mr. Chase brought forward the measure which he had prepared with so much labor, and offered it an amendment to the General Appropriation bill. He so clearly explained its provisions, that no one could misapprehend them. He showed that not a single objection raised by some of the Cass Democrats of the West against the other bill, could be urged against this—that it fully met every requisition they had made.

Mr. Yulee insisted that the amendment was out of order, but soon found his position untenable. The ultra opponents of Western improvements were loud in their denunciations, and intimidated many of those who were hesitating between justice to the People of the West and the interests of their party. Mr. Ewing said the proposition was ill-timed; that he had not had time to examine it, that he should vote against it; and his lead was gladly accepted by some who, though from party considerations they desired the passage of no bill at all, had, till then, doubted whether they could venture to vote against so unobjectionable a measure as that of Mr. Chase. Had Mr. Cass been present, we have reason to believe that he would have adopted the proposition, and its success then would have been certain. As it was, the defection of the Whig advocates of Western improvements gave countenance to the Western Democrats who had been seeking pretexts for opposing any measure at all, and, on submitting the proposition to the Senate, it received the vote of but three Senators—Chase, Seward, and Walker, the vote being as follows:

Yeas—Messrs. Chase, Seward, and Walker—3.

Nays—Messrs. Atchison, Badger, Baldwin, Bell, Borland, Bright, Clarke, Clemens, Cooper, Davis of Mississippi, Dawson, Dickinson, Dodge of Iowa, Douglas, Downs, Ewing, Felch, Foote, Greene, Gwin, Hamlin, Houston, Hunter, Jones, King, Mason, Miller, Morton, Norris, Pearce, Rantoul, Rusk, Shields, Smith, Soule, Spruance, Whitcomb, and Yulee—38.

Absent—Messrs. Benton, Berrien, Bradbury, Butler, Cass, Clay, Davis of Massachusetts, Dayton, Dodge of Wisconsin, Fremont, Hale, Mangum, Phelps, Pratt, Rhett, Sebastian, Sturgeon, Turney, Underwood, Upham, Wales—21.

Thus perished all hope for the rivers and harbors of the West, from the Thirty-first Congress; for, as Mr. Chase had predicted, the hour of eight came and passed, and the River and Harbor bill slept the sleep of death, the Navy Appropriation bill being under discussion, and occupying, with a few other measures, the remaining hours of the session.

From this plain narrative of facts, the People of the West may judge who are their friends, and whether it is worth while any longer to put themselves in the keeping of parties, more intent on President-making than on providing for the great interests of the country.

REJECTION OF HUGH N. SMITH.

Hugh N. Smith, the intelligent, high-spirited delegate from New Mexico, who so ably urged her claims during the first session of the Congress which has just expired, was nominated lately by the President, as Secretary for New Mexico.

He was well qualified for the highest office in the Territory, and had better claims to official station in New Mexico than a resident of the States. Nobody could doubt his entire competence, or his fidelity to the interests of his constituents. But *the Senate, acting in secret session, rejected his nomination*—Clay and Underwood of Kentucky being the only Southern men who voted in his favor. He was rejected, because, though a native of Kentucky, son of a slaveholder, and educated under slaveholding institutions, he wrote a letter to his constituents last year, urging them to exclude slavery from their Territory, as a social and political evil. The same Senate which proscribed him for his Anti-Slavery sentiments, a few days before ratified without difficulty the nominations of Judge Baker of Mississippi, and Judge Brocchus, of this place, both slaveholders, for the offices of Chief Justice in Utah and New Mexico. As the Free States have a majority in the Senate, and Clay and Underwood voted for Smith, it is certain that a number of Northern men with Southern principles must have aided in his execution. Were it not for the secrecy of the Senate proceedings relative to nominations, the People would know the names of the traitors.

EXTRA SESSION OF THE SENATE.

An extra session of the Senate, called by the President, met on the 5th.

The Chairman, having taken his seat, ordered the galleries to be cleared, and declined entertaining a resolution which Mr. Badger desired to submit, until the doors were closed. Mr. Badger appealed from his decision, and a long debate sprung up on the question whether the Senate ought to sit in secret session on any other than strictly Executive business. Subsequently, Mr. Badger withdrew his resolution, and the appeal, so that the journal might be read. He then renewed the resolution, and the Chair, for the purpose of testing the sense of the Senate, decided that it could be received in open session. Mr. Bright took an appeal—the yeas and nays were ordered—and the decision of the Chair was sustained—41 to 3—the three names in the negative being Bright, Walker, and Whitcomb.

The result is such as the People must approve. The less secrecy there is in the proceedings of the legislative branches of the Government, the better. There may be circumstances requiring the consideration of treaties and nominations to be conducted in secret session, but we know of nothing else which should be kept from the public eye. Indeed, we are not sure that there should be any concealment in relation to proceedings upon nominations. Where the objections to a nomination do not involve private character, but are merely political, why should not the action of the Senate be open, so that its members might be held to a proper accountability?

After this matter had been disposed of, various resolutions were submitted by Senators, and laid over under the rule. The Senate then went into Executive session.

Thursday was devoted to Executive business.

Friday, it having been decided that the Senate might do at an extra session, whatever it could do at any time without conjunction with the House, several resolutions were taken up and passed. A resolution authorizing the purchase of a certain number of copies of the Patent Office report was laid upon the table. Three thousand extra copies of the report of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institute were ordered to be printed. The terms of Mr. Davis of Mississippi and Mr. Mason of Virginia, as members of the Board of Regents, having expired, the President of the Senate, under authority given to him by that body, reappointed them.

Saturday, Mr. Yulee sent in a communication intimating his intention to contest the seat to which Mr. Mallory was announced to be elected by the Legislature of Florida.

On motion of Mr. Hale, a resolution was adopted calling upon the Secretary of the Treasury for information in regard to the trade and commerce of the British North American Colonies. A resolution submitted by Mr. Badger, that each member of the Senate be supplied with twelve additional copies of the Congressional Globe, was on motion of Mr. Chase laid upon the table—yeas 26, nays 14. A resolution offered by Mr. Clay, for extra compensation to the employées of the Senate out of its contingent fund, was adopted—yeas 29, nays 11. On motion of Mr. Foote, the President was called upon to communicate to the Senate copies of any correspondence between the Secretary of State and the American Minister at Constantinople, in relation to Kossuth.

Several appointments have been confirmed, and the following treaties ratified—a Treaty with Switzerland, a Tehuantepec Treaty with Mexico, and a Treaty with Nicaragua.

Appointments confirmed:

John S. Pendleton of Virginia, to be Chargé d'Affaires of the United States to the Argentine Republic.

Ogden Hoffman, junior, of San Francisco, to be Judge of the District Court of the United States for the northern district of California.

Horace Mower of Michigan, to be an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the Territory of New Mexico.

John S. Watts of Indiana, to be an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the Territory of New Mexico.

Louis Lindner, to be Consul of the United States at Sonneberg, in the Duchy of Saxe Meininger Hildburghhausen, in Germany.

H. Jones Brooke of Pennsylvania, to be Consul of the United States at Belfast, in Ireland.

Henry A. Homes of Massachusetts, to be Assistant Dragoman and Secretary to the Legation of the United States in Turkey.

The *National Intelligencer* says it has reason to believe that the prevalent rumor of the removal of Mr. Ewbank, Commissioner of Patents, is groundless. It may be so; but we presume the axe is suspended over his head.

Monday, Mr. Cass rose to a personal explanation. He read the editorial article of the *Republic*, of this morning, in which was a letter written by General C. to a Mr. Kellogg, upon the subject of the improvement of certain harbors in Michigan, and some editorial comments upon the course of General Cass with regard to the River and Harbor bill. He denied that that letter to Mr. Kellogg was a pledge to vote for the River and Harbor bill; and if it was, it is not a pledge to vote for the bill that came before the Senate. That bill was one which contained items for which he could not vote. He believed that a national bill could have been passed.

He denied most positively the statement that at Cleveland he had sheltered himself behind the "noise and confusion." He defended his scruples upon legislating in time of peace on Sunday; and also his opinion that the Congress terminated at 12 o'clock at night on the 3d of March. In conclusion, he declared that the editor of the *Republic*, by his article, had shown himself deficient in either the moral or mental qualifications of an editor.

Mr. Rhett followed, in reply to a letter published in yesterday's *Union*, and written by Mr. Houston, and in which the State laws and Constitution of South Carolina were freely commented upon. Mr. R. selected six statements made by General Houston in his letter, and pronounced them false.

Mr. Houston briefly replied, contending that if any error occurred, it was wholly unintentional.

Mr. Butler continued the matter, pointing out that on a former occasion he had shown to General H. the error in a similar statement.

Mr. Houston briefly replied.

Mr. Hale. I also wish to say a few words of personal explanation, as this seems to be the morning for it. I have not the precise papers here, but as this is the end of the session, the business not pressing, and no day fixed for adjournment, I wish to say that I have been assailed grossly in a good many papers; and I want to take this occasion further to say, that so far as anything charging me with any impropriety, here or elsewhere, now or heretofore, is concerned, there is not a word of truth in the whole of it. [Laughter]

The Chair laid before the Senate a communication from Messrs. Gales & Seaton, declining after this session the publication of the Senate debates at the prices allowed.

Mr. Cooper, from the Judiciary Committee, to whom the subject was referred, reported that the provision in the appropriation bill of last Congress in regard to the mileage of the California Senators was a permanent one, and that those Senators are not entitled to mileage by the Panama route.

The Senate then went into Executive session, and at 4 o'clock adjourned.

THE DUTY OF ANTI-SLAVERY VOTERS.

Mr. Lewis of Cincinnati has another article on the first page of this week's *Era*, on the duty of anti-slavery voters. He writes with his characteristic strength and earnestness, and his suggestions are entitled to great consideration. Our position he does not fully understand. We do not differ from him in any essential point. We both agree as to the necessity of an organization of the friends of liberty, the duty of prompt and independent action, the policy of organizing our forces in every State. What we dissented from was, the attempt to re-organize at this time the national Liberty Party, on the single idea of opposition to Slavery, with its old modes of action. The Liberty party had its day, accomplished all that it was adapted to accomplish, and was absorbed in a more general, more efficient movement.

It does not follow that another organization is not now demanded. Forms and names are nothing—we want unity and efficiency.

Old Party issues are losing their importance. The Democratic Party can hardly be said to exist, at least, with a definite chart of principles. The Whig party is in a state of anarchy. The leaders of both evince, everywhere, a disposition to unite for the purpose of sustaining each other against the advancing tide of liberal opinion. Questions which once divided them have lost their significance, and other questions have arisen on which they fear to commit themselves.

It is thought by many of our friends that the times require the formation of a new party, taking the Democratic principle, as its central Idea, and boldly applying it to the solution of all the political questions now pressing upon the Public Mind. The movement to this end, they say, should originate in State action. Let the friends of Freedom in Ohio, for example, call a State Convention, to organize a party of true Democracy, on the basis of Land Reform, River and Harbor Improvements where the works are of national interest and require national enterprise, Elections of all Officers by the People, Free Trade, Opposition to Class Legislation, Divorce of the Federal Government from all support of Slavery, and Opposition to the Evil within constitutional limits.

Let the Convention meet at as early a day as may be convenient, issue a Declaration of Principles, assume the name, *Democratic*, as the title of the Party thus organized, invite all Liberal Anti-Slavery men to hold similar Conventions in their respective States, for the purpose of forming similar organizations, and issue a call for a National Democratic Convention, embracing all who are willing to adopt such principles, to meet, say at Buffalo, Cleveland, or Pittsburg, next September or October.

Let that Convention adopt a complete platform of Democratic Principles, in their legitimate application to all practical political questions, including that of Slavery, and let it call a National Convention to meet the following May or June, to take into consideration the subject of nominating a candidate for the Presidency to be supported in 1852.

This is the plan suggested by many true friends of Freedom, and we see no objection to it. Such a Party would comprehend a large majority of the anti-slavery voters of the country, and attract the best materials from the old, worn-out organizations. It would combine comprehensiveness of policy with unity of principle and purpose. It could not be charged with cowardice in the application of its principles, or with neglecting one interest in its zeal to advance another. It would be impartial, harmonious, complete, prepared for every good word and work.

Undoubtedly, not a few anti-slavery men, who dissent from radical Democratic Principles, might deem it inconsistent to unite with such a Party, but they would recognise the great importance of its organization, and feel strengthened by its influence in whatever modes of action they should deem proper for themselves. The new organization would be tolerant, recognising the sincerity and sustaining the wise efforts of those who, unable to unite with it in all its views, should still evince an honest purpose to maintain such of them as they believed sound.

This, we repeat, is the scheme of action proposed by many good and true men, and if we are to have a new national organization, we confess the policy suggested commends itself to our judgment. Holding ourselves and our paper always free from the trammels of Party, we are ready at all times to sustain those who advocate the Truth, whatever name or formula they may adopt, and the more Truth they incorporate in their creeds and schemes of policy, the more cordial shall be our support.

TWO WEEKS LATER FROM CALIFORNIA.

The new steamship North America arrived at New York, eight days and six hours from Chagres, bringing intelligence from California, two weeks later. She had on board 255 passengers, and $450,000 in gold dust. There had been no election of United States Senator—Colonel Fremont's chances were improving. The Indian difficulties were increasing every day. The *New York Tribune* says:

"The Indian disturbances have become serious, and we see little prospect of their being settled, except by a war of extermination. There never can be permanent peace between the motley communities of the gold region—the rangers and "prospectors" who, during the summer, penetrate to all the valleys and fastnesses of the Nevada, and the Indians, whom they necessarily dispossess. The American, in his rough state, has the most sovereign contempt for every other race than his own, and it is useless to expect him to treat with any degree of justice the brutish and degraded 'digger' of California, standing lowest in the scale of the aboriginal tribes of this continent. The Commissioners may make treaties, but what shall prevent their immediate violation? The Indians, numbering probably not more than 20,000 in all, and divided into a number of small tribes, and scattered over a region more than one thousand miles in extent—a region, too, which for years to come will be virtually without the pale of the State jurisdiction. A single lawless act will be sufficient to undo all the work of the Government agents, and renew the present and indiscriminate system of warfare. We hope a better feeling may prevail, as the mining communities become permanent and more thoroughly organized. The California Indian will soon enough disappear, in the inevitable course of that destiny which has opened the long-hidden treasures of the Pacific coast to the energies of civilization."

Reduced Postage, after June 30, 1851.—*Letters*, not exceeding half an ounce, and within 3,000 miles, 3 cents prepaid, 5 cents not prepaid; and the same for every additional half ounce or fraction thereof. Over 3,000 miles, double these rates. Foreign letters, wholly or in part by sea, under 2,500 miles, 10 cents; over 2,500 miles, 20 cents; but no change is made in existing postal arrangements with foreign countries. Drop letters one cent; advertising one cent.

Weekly newspapers, not over three ounces, sent from the office of publication, to subscribers within the county, free; out of the county, and within 50 miles, 5 cents a quarter; over 50, and less than 300 miles, 10 cents a quarter; over 300, and less than 1,000 miles, 15 cents; over 1,000, and less than 2,000, 20 cents; over 2,000, and less than 4,000, 25 cents; over 4,000 miles, 30 cents. Monthly newspapers, one-fourth those rates; semi-monthly, one-half those rates; semi-weekly, double those rates; tri-weekly, treble those rates; and oftener than tri-weekly, five times those rates. Newspapers, less than 300 square inches, one-fourth the above rates.

All other newspapers, circulars not sealed, handbills, engravings, pamphlets, periodicals, magazines, and other printed matter, (except periodicals as below) including books and parcels not exceeding 32 ounces, for every ounce or fraction of an ounce under 500 miles, one cent; over 500, and less than 1,500, two cents; over 1,500, and less than 2,500, three cents; over 2,500, and less than 3,500, four cents; over 3,500, five cents—*to be paid in advance.* If by oversight unpaid, double these rates to be charged. *On periodicals*, published quarterly, or oftener, subscribers to pay half the above rates quarterly in advance.

The publishers of newspapers and of periodicals not over 16 ounces, may interchange one copy free, and enclose bills to subscribers. Stamps for prepayment to be provided by the Postmaster General. A three-cent piece, three quarters silver and one-quarter copper, to be coined—*N. Y. Journal of Commerce.*

LITERARY NOTICES.

The Memoirs and Writings of James Handasyd Perkins. Edited by William Henry Channing. In two volumes, with a portrait. Boston: Crosby & Nichols. Cincinnati: Trueman & Spofford. For sale by Taylor & Maury, Pennsylvania avenue, Washington, D. C.

This is a work which will be most cordially welcomed by many of our readers; for the subject of this interesting memoir, the writer of these admirable sketches and beautiful poems, is held by them in affectionate and mournful remembrance. In our perusal of the volumes before us, we know not by which we have been the most impressed—the genius, the lovable qualities, or the high moral nature of him so early and mysteriously called from his earthly labors and loves.

Yet he cannot be said to have passed away from us, living, as he does, in thousands of grateful human hearts—the friend of the poor, the cheerer of the suffering, the strengthener of the weak, the counsellor of the strong, and the brother of us all.

The writings of Mr. Perkins deserve a more extended and analytic criticism than it is now in our power to give them. His poems are marked by much tenderness and spirituality; there is great power in some of his sketches and essays; and always apparent, in everything from his pen, is a soul of sincerity and devotion, a deep, unfailing faith in humanity and God.

With these few and simple words, which were little needed, but which we could not withhold, we leave this work to the more careful consideration of our readers. G. G.

Jane Bouverie; or Prosperity and Adversity. By Catharine Sinclaire, author of Sir Edward Graham, Modern Society, &c. New York: Harper & Brothers. For sale by Franck Taylor, Pennsylvania avenue, Washington, D. C.

One of the most gracefully written and interesting novels of this charming authoress. We cordially commend it to our readers. Miss Sinclair always writes conscientiously, from a large heart and a clear brain. She is always the sincere, high-principled woman, the safe adviser, the gentle, sympathizing friend of the young. G. G.

The Moorland Cottage. By the author of Mary Barton. Boston: Crosby & Nichols. For sale by Taylor & Maury, Pennsylvania avenue, Washington, D. C.

We have not yet been able to allow ourself the pleasure of reading this story, but have been assured of its merits by those well qualified to judge. G. G.

A Story for Young Men: or a Sketch of Sir Thomas Fowell Buxton. By Rev. Thomas Binney. Boston: Crosby & Nichols. For sale as above.

This is a noble biographical essay, which we could wish to see in the hands of every young man.

It is beautiful to contemplate a character at once so strong and graceful, so large and so symmetrical—it is like viewing some perfect architectural structure, some Grecian temple of grand proportions, yet, in detail, most harmonious and pure.

In looking through the volume for the purpose of making some extracts, we come upon a brief, simple sentence, in its directness and completeness, better than whole pages, as a revelation of the secret of Sir Fowell Buxton's force of character and success in life. It is this:

"The longer I live, the more I am certain that the great difference between men, between the feeble and the powerful, the great and the insignificant, is *energy*—invincible determination—a purpose once fixed, and then death or victory. That quality will do anything that can be done in this world; and no talents, no circumstances, no opportunities, will make a two-legged creature a *man without it.*" G. G.

Cousin Hatty's Hymns and Twilight Stories. Boston: Crosby & Nichols. For sale by Taylor & Maury, Pennsylvania avenue, Washington, D. C.

The little poems which compose this pretty juvenile volume were originally written, we learn from the preface, "for a dear little child, with no thought beyond her gratification." For once, at least, "the request of friends" was wisely, as well as kindly hearkened to by a bashful authoress, and this collection of stories and moral lessons, in sweet, simple, and affectionate verse is, we hope, destined to a fine run among the little ones. G. G.

Foreign Reminiscences. By Henry Richard Lord Holland. Edited by his son, Henry Edward Lord Holland. New York: Harper & Brothers. For sale by Franck Taylor, Pennsylvania avenue, Washington, D. C.

This is a work to be eagerly sought for, and read with keen interest. It is a succession of fearless comments and criticisms on the most important characters and events of the author's time—a collection of political sketches, done in the freest and boldest style of the art. The reader is often startled and shocked by the breadth and audacity of his statements, and the plain English of his language. Though not disposed to find fault, we must say there are too many little scandalous stories, coarse allusions, and even details, scattered through the volume. But, perhaps, in the author's estimation, these were necessary to give a truthful and a piquant character to his volume. G. G.

Lavengro; the Scholar—the Gipsy—the Priest. By George Borrow, author of the Bible in Spain. New York: Harper & Brothers. For sale by Franck Taylor, Pennsylvania avenue, Washington, D. C.

We have barely been able to glance through this volume, and therefore cannot speak confidently of its merits; the fame of its author, however, will doubtless insure its success. G. G.

Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine, February, 1851. For sale by Taylor & Maury, Pennsylvania avenue, Washington, D. C.

The principal articles of interest to us in this number are, "My Novel," Part vi, and a fine view of Lord Holland's Reminiscences. G. G.

Celebrated Saloons. By Madam Gay; and Parisian Letters. By Madam Girardin. Translated from the French, by L. Willard. Boston: Crosby & Nichols. For sale as above.

This is a very charming little volume, over which one can wile away an hour or so with decided pleasure, if not manifest profit. G. G.

Littell's Living Age. March 12, 1851.

This number, among many admirable articles, contains an interesting biography of the late Sir Robert Peel, and a fine essay on the character of Socrates, under the head of a review of Grote's History of Greece. In reading this, we came upon the following passage, which we respectfully beg leave to commend to the attention of our illustrious Secretary of State:

"Once, or it may be twice, again he (Socrates) was allowed to exhibit to the world that most touching and instructive of historical lessons—a good man, not in the vehemence of political excitement, but in the simple performance of his duty, *setting at defiance unjust or tyrannical enactments.* Pursuant to their general plan of implicating unwilling citizens in their misdeeds, the Thirty sent for five citizens to the tholus, or government-house, and ordered them, with terrible menaces, to cross over to Salamis and bring back Leon as prisoner. Four out of the five obeyed; the fifth was the philosopher Socrates, who refused all concurrence, and returned to his own house, while the other four went to Salamis and took part in the seizure of Leon."

"There is nothing new under the sun!" A rebellious Boston commissioner has his prototype

in the glorious old Athenian. Rev. T. S. King has made a fine application of this historical example in a noble lecture on the character and life of Socrates. G. G.

A GOOD STORY SPOILED IN THE TELLING.

Mr. Webster in his late letter to the New York Union Committee, has the following:

"Some persons affect to believe that the Union is not, and has not been, in any danger. They treat your efforts, made for its preservation, with indifference, and often with derision. It appears to me that the temper of these persons is very much like that of those who, when the fountains of the great deep had been broken up, the windows of Heaven opened, and rain had fallen upon the earth forty days and forty nights, until everything but the Peak of Mount Ararat was already under water, did not still 'believe that there would be much of a shower.' [Great applause and roars of laughter, which continued for several minutes."]

Now we respectfully protest against this new version of a very old story—as one highly improbable and lamentably wanting in point. The honorable letter-writer doubtless wished to make his figure as strong as possible, and so overdid the matter. One can but wonder where, during the forty days and forty nights of steady rain, these same indifferent and skeptical persons took refuge—where "on *airth*" they found dry footing. True, Mr. Webster has very considerately left bare the peak of Ararat, but we believe it is the generally received opinion that even that high point was overflowed until after the subsiding of the waters.

The version of this ancient tradition most familiar to us, and which to our mind bears most marks of authenticity, runs somewhat thus:

Noah, the pious patriarch, had a friend and neighbor, who at the first rather favored his little fanatical plan of providing in time for a rainy day; who even gave him the benefit of his valuable advice in the construction of the ark, contributed some timber, and drove a spike or two with his own strong hand. He moreover endured for awhile the opposition of a contemptuous public opinion, and recognised, or seemed to recognise, the "higher law" of God's command. But after a time, when the strife between the Delugians and Anti-Delugians grew really serious, the tradition states that he deserted the unpopular cause, and went over to the majority, expressing a conviction that his friend Noah, a well-meaning old man enough, was carrying a sentiment quite too far; and giving it as his solemn opinion that Messrs. Shem, Ham, and Japheth, were dark, designing men, cloaking dangerous and treasonable projects under philanthrophic pretensions.

We may presume that Noah missed and mourned his quondam friend, but he is said to have smiled a curious sort of smile as he saw him growing daily more worldly, portly and prosperous, while he, neglected and despised, kept patiently hammering away at his huge abstraction.

Matters went on in this way until the day when, at the head of his family and dumb dependants, the patriarchal enthusiast took possession of the ark. If we may credit the tradition, it happened that on the very succeeding night his distinguished countryman was attending a grand dinner given in his honor—and that he then and there made a great speech in which he *ig-Noahed* his old friend and his policy, and cracked rich jokes, like bottles of generous Burgundy, against the awkward vessel which had lain so long in the stocks, the great unlaunched. There followed immense applause and roars of laughter, which continued for several minutes, while the knowing ones are said to have winked across the board, and slily trod on each others' toes, to remind of somebody who in the days gone by, helped to lay the keel of that same old craft.

It has also come down to us that in the gray of the morning the eloquent speaker set out for his home, some two or three leagues to the southward. It had been raining all night, and as he dozed on the luxurious cushions of his carriage, he was finally troubled by a dim impression of a continual fording of streams. Becoming a little anxious for his elegant equipage, he called at last to the coachman to know what in —— the name of goodness he was about, and was informed that there had been a great "fresh," and all the country was overflowed.

Soon an inside place grew quite uncomfortable, and was abandoned for a seat with the driver—the water rose higher, and higher—the road was lost—the horses became desperate—the driver, in cutting them loose, was swept away, leaving his master alone on the box, drenched with rain, and blue from the keen blasts of a northeaster. Presently, says the tradition, he beheld the ark just set afloat, and bearing down towards him, and in a facetious manner, peculiarly his own, called out, "Floating Menagerie, ahoy! can't you take in another half-drowned creature? Come, neighbor, throw out a line, for the sake of old times; you know, I have a little interest in that ark, myself."

But Noah, looking down from the deck, shook his venerable beard sadly, and replied, "No, neighbor, you wouldn't come on board when I wanted you—when I would have put the ark herself under your command—and now I can't accommodate you. I am sorry, for I did respect you once, but my orders are peremptory. Good morning—I admire your talents, but, you see the plank has been hauled in."

Then it was that the occupant of the coach-box, looking after the departing voyager, gave him gracious permission to "get along with his old ark," and pronounced his cool and philosophic opinion as to the inconsiderable nature of the approaching shower. *Et voilà tout.*

A certain zealous old lady was once arguing strongly for woman's right to preach, when some one attempted to put her down, with a text from St. Paul. "Ah," she said, "there is where Paul and I differ." So we may say of this little question of history, or sacred tradition—it is where we and the honorable Secretary differ.

G. G.

THE RIVER AND HARBOR BILL OF MR. CHASE.

The following is the River and Harbor Bill of Mr. Chase, proposed by him as an amendment to the Civil and Diplomatic Bill:

SEC. —. *And be it further enacted*, That for the preservation, repair, and further prosecution of the public works hereinafter mentioned, the several sums specified in connection with each work, respectively, viz:

For a breakwater structure at the harbor of Burlington, on Lake Champlain, $15,000. For a breakwater structure at the harbor of Plattsburg, on Lake Champlain, $15,000. For the improvement of the harbor at Whitehall, on Lake Champlain, $10,000. For repairs and working of dredge on Lake Champlain, $9,000. For improvement of the harbor at Port Ontario, on Lake Ontario, $15,000. For the improvement of the harbor at Oswego, on Lake Ontario, $40,000; of the harbor at the mouth of Big Sodus Bay, on Lake Ontario, $10,000; of the harbor at the mouth of Little Sodus Bay, on Lake Ontario, $10,000; of the harbor at the mouth of the Genesee River, on Lake Ontario, $20,000; of the harbor at the mouth of Oak Orchard Bay, on Lake Ontario, $10,500. For a dredge boat on Lake Ontario, $20,000. For the improvement of the harbor at Buffalo, on Lake Erie, and the repair and extension of the sea wall thereat, $50,000; of the harbor at Dunkirk, on Lake Erie, $20,000; of the harbor at Cattaraugus, on Lake Erie, $15,000; of the harbor at Erie, on Lake Erie, $40,000; of the harbor at Conneaut, on Lake Erie, $15,000; of the harbor Cunningham's Bay, on Lake Erie, $10,000; of the harbor at Ashtabula, $15,000; of the harbor at the mouth of Grand River, on Lake Erie, $15,000; of the harbor at Cleveland, on Lake Erie, $20,000; of the harbor at the mouth of Black River, on Lake Erie, $10,000; of the harbor at the mouth of Vermillion River, on Lake Erie, $10,000; of the harbor at Huron, on Lake Erie, $6,000; of the harbor at Sandusky, on Lake Erie, $30,000; of the harbor at Monroe, on Lake Erie, $20,000. For a dredge boat for Lake Erie, $20,000. For the improvement of the harbor at Michigan City, on Lake Michigan, $30,000; of the harbor of Chicago, on Lake Michigan, $15,000. For a breakwater structure at the harbor of Waukegan, on Lake Michigan, $15,000. For the improvement of the harbor at St. Joseph, on Lake Michigan, $20,000; of the harbor at the mouth of the Kalamazoo River, on Lake Michigan, $10,000; of the harbor at the mouth of Grand River, on Lake Michigan, $10,000; of the harbor at Milwaukie, on Lake Michigan, $20,000; of the harbor at Racine, on Lake Michigan, $10,000; of the harbor at Southport, on Lake Michigan, $15,000. For a dredge boat on Lake Michigan, $20,000. For continuation of the surveys of the Northern and Northwestern Lakes, $25,000. For the improvement of the harbor at Dubuque, on the Mississippi River, $20,000; of the harbor at St. Louis, on the Mississippi, River, $50,000; of the harbor at Havre de Grace, in Maryland, $20,000; of the harbor at New Bedford, Massachusetts, $10,000; of the harbor at Provincetown, Massachusetts, $4,500. For the improvement of the harbor at Wilmington, North Carolina, and a resurvey of the Cape Fear River below Wilmington, and for the survey of the harbor at the mouth of New River, below Jacksonville, North Carolina, $10,000. For the improvement of the harbor at Bridgeport, Connecticut, $10,000. For the improvement of the harbor at Savannah, and the naval anchorage near Fort Pulaski, $50,000. For the construction of a breakwater structure at Stamford Ledge, in the harbor of Portland, Maine, $20,000. For the improvement of the harbor at Falmouth, Massachusetts, between Buzzard's Bay and Vineyard Sound, $4,500. For the improvement of the harbor at Providence, and the removal of a rock in Saukonnet River, Rhode Island, $5,000. For the improvement of the harbor at Newcastle, Delaware, $15,000. For the improvement of the harbor at Newark, New Jersey, embracing the Bay of Newark, and the Kills westward of the mouth of the Bay, $15,000. For the improvement of the harbor at Port Penn, Delaware, or Reedy Island, at the discretion of the Secretary of War, $5,000. For the completing of the removal of the sand shoal in Pamlico River, below Washington, North Carolina, $5,000. For the continuation of the Delaware breakwater, $50,000. For the improvement and further survey of the harbor at Baltimore City below the Port Warden's line, and the Patapsco River from the said Port Warden's line to the mouth of said river, $20,000. For the repair and preservation of the harbors on the coast of the Atlantic Ocean, $20,000. For the removal of obstructions to the navigation of the Hudson River below Watervliet, $75,000. For the removal of the obstructions to the navigation of the St. Clair River, connecting the upper and lower lakes, $40,000. For the improvement of the Ohio River above the Falls at Louisville, $80,000; of the Mississippi River, the Ohio River below the Falls at Louisville, and the Missouri and Arkansas Rivers, $240,000; of the Red River, $80,000. For the repair of the dam at the head of Cumberland Island, in the Ohio River, $50,000. For the improvement of the harbor at Stamford, Connecticut, $5,000; of the harbor at Manitowac, in the State of Wisconsin, $10,000; of the harbor at Sheboygan, in the State of Wisconsin, $10,000; of the upper and lower rapids of the Mississippi River, $50,000. For the removal of rocks obstructing the navigation of Cobscook Bay, near Falls Island, below the port of Pembroke, on the coast of Maine, $5,000. For the improvement of the harbor at the mouth of Saginaw River, in Saginaw Bay, on Lake Huron, $10,000. For the improvement and further survey of the harbor at the mouth of Clinton River, on Lake St. Clair, in the State of Michigan, $10,000. For the improvement of the harbor at Puttnsyville, in the State of New York, on Lake Ontario, $10,000; of the harbor at the mouth of Black River, in the State of Michigan, $10,000. For a survey of the harbor at Beaufort, North Carolina, with an estimate of the cost and advantages to said harbor, of connecting the River Neuse therewith, $2,500. For the survey of the Mississippi River above the Falls of St. Anthony, for the purpose of ascertaining what improvements (and the expense thereof) can be made in the navigation at Sauk and Pike Rapids, $5,000. For completing the topographical and hydrographical survey of the delta of the Mississippi River, together with additional surveys, having reference to the overflowing of the Mississippi River, $30,000. For a survey of the harbor at Mobile, $5,000. For the improvement and further survey of the harbor at Richmond City, Va., and the James River from said harbor to the mouth of said river, $20,000. For the construction of snag and dredge boats and discharging scows, for the removal of obstructions in the harbors on the coast of Texas, $50,000. For the removal of Middle Rock, designated on the chart as "Rocky Buoy," in the harbor of New Haven, Connecticut, $6,000.

SKETCH OF A DEBATE IN THE SENATE

On Mr. Chase's Motion to Amend the Civil and Diplomatic Bill by inserting certain Provisions for the Improvement of Rivers and Harbors.

Mr. Chase. I wish to call the attention of the Senate to a very important amendment which I am about to submit. I think it quite obvious——

Mr. Rusk. I claim the floor. I was on it, and addressed the Chair before the Senator from Ohio.

The President. The Chair did not hear the Senator from Texas.

Mr. Chase, (continuing.) It must be quite obvious to every one that the River and Harbor Bill, which has been laid on the table and made the order for eight o'clock, cannot pass this body. I therefore submit a motion to amend this bill now under discussion, and will explain briefly the proposed amendment.

It is the bill originally reported in the House of Representatives by the Committee on Commerce, providing for the improvement of Rivers and Harbors, modified by striking out every item not estimated for and sanctioned by the proper department. Assisted by my friend, the chairman of the Committee on Commerce, (Mr. Hamlin,) I have gone over the whole, item by item, retaining every appropriation for which an estimate has been made, and striking out all for which estimates have not been made.

Mr. Hunter. Is that motion in order. We have just voted to lay that bill down, and I hope it will not be pressed upon us. I fear we shall lose the Appropriation bill.

Mr. Chase. I think the Appropriation bills are in no danger. We have till twelve o'clock to consider them. The subject of the improvement of Rivers and Harbors is as important as any which can come before Congress. It is not at all unusual to make appropriations of this sort in bills of this character. I submit the amendment, to come in after the clauses making appropriations for light-houses.

The President. The Senator from Ohio proposes to amend the bill by inserting several sections consisting of nine pages.

Mr. Gwin. Is that motion in order?

The question was taken, and the decision announced against the adoption of the amendment.

Mr. Chase. The amendment has not been read.

Mr. Walker. I was on the floor before the decision was announced, and called for the yeas and nays.

Mr. Rusk. The decision was announced before the yeas and nays were called.

Mr. Hunter. I call order. The decision has been announced.

The President. The yeas and nays were not called for until after the Chair had announced the decision.

Mr. Walker. I called for the yeas and nays before the Chair put the motion.

The President. The Chair did not hear the Senator. Did the Senator from Wisconsin call for the yeas and nays before the question was put.

Mr. Walker. Yes, sir; I was on the floor, and made the call.

The President. If the Senator says he was on the floor, and asked for the yeas and nays, the Chair is bound to put the question again.

Mr. Bright. I hope we will proceed to consider the amendments to the Civil and Diplomatic bill, that they may be engrossed.

Mr. Chase. I must say a word. As soon as I had submitted my amendment, the Senator from North Carolina called my attention to a particular item in the bill; and while my attention was momentarily thus directed, the Senator from Wisconsin called for the yeas and nays, and before I had time to turn round, the question was propounded and the result announced, without even reading the amendment.

The President. The Senator from Ohio did not ask to have the amendment read. The Chair stated there were various sections in the amendment, consisting of nine pages. The Chair did not hear the Senator from Wisconsin call for the yeas and nays.

Mr. Chase. I hope the Chair will allow us to have the vote. I had addressed the Chair, and my having my attention turned for the moment by the Senator from North Carolina, was the cause of my not asking to have the amendment read before the vote was taken.

The President. The Chair has no disposition to prevent the question from being taken by yeas and nays; and as the Senator from Wisconsin says he had asked for them before the question was put, the Chair will feel bound to call for them.

Mr. Rusk. I hope the decision of the Chair will stand as it was announced. If we squabble over this question, we shall never pass the bill on earth.

The President. The Chair has decided.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

Mr. Atchison. It is true that the Senator from Ohio was not a party to the understanding—I will not say the contract—by which the River and Harbor bill was laid aside temporarily; but it seems to me that he is violating the spirit of that understanding. This River and Harbor bill was to be laid aside till eight o'clock.

Mr. Chase. This is not the same bill at all.

Mr. Atchison. It amounts to the same thing. I hope the Senators from Kentucky and Tennessee, who are parties to that understanding, will vote against this amendment.

Mr. Foote. Mr. President—

Several Senators. Let us have the vote.

Mr. Foote. I shall be heard. I have been calling hers for an hour. I intend to say that it will be a hideous violation of good faith, if we take up that bill. We have agreed to take it up at a particular time; and if this attempt succeeds, we shall lose the Appropriation bills.

Mr. Chase. I protest against any insinuation that there has been any violation of good faith on my part. I have been no party to any contract made on this floor. I stand here as an individual Senator, independent of all your compacts. I stand here to represent the interests of my State, deeply involved in the fate of the amendment which I have submitted.

Sir, it was objected to the River and Harbor bill now on the table, and by none more strenuously than by the Senator from Mississippi, that there were no estimates for many of the appropriations that it contained, and that some were not national in their character. The support of a bill containing such items was denounced as inconsistent with the National Democratic platform. I am no great admirer of the Baltimore platform, or of any platform which will not permit the exercise of the constitutional power of Congress for the improvement of our great inland channels of commerce and navigation.

My amendment, Mr. President, is liable to none of those objections on the score of the want of estimates or want of nationality, which were so strongly insisted on by several Senators on this side of the Chamber against the bill now laid on the table. It is the House bill, originally reported last summer by the House Committee on Commerce, which was submitted to the Topographical Bureau, and scrutinized item by item, and was the subject of the report made by Col. Abert, chief of that Bureau, to the House, last fall. I said, when I introduced it, that I had examined it, with the aid of the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Commerce, (Mr. Hamlin,) and had compared it with that report item by item, and that it contained no object and no appropriation for which there was not an estimate and a recommendation from the Department of War. Every work provided for in it is important. Every appropriation proposed by it is properly sanctioned and recommended. Most of the appropriations, indeed, are not for new works, but for the preservation and repair of works long since begun, which, through the neglect of Government, have gone to decay and ruin. I cannot sit still when I think of the enormous waste of life, the vast destruction of property, and the incalculable inconveniences of every sort, experienced through this criminal neglect. So long as I have a seat on this floor I mean to be heard, until the claims of the West in this respect shall be acknowledged and responded to.

MASTER AND PUPIL.

Colonel James Tappan, a venerable citizen of Gloucester, Massachusetts, now 84 years of age, recently addressed a letter to the Hon. Daniel Webster, reminding him that more than sixty years ago he (Mr. W.) was one of his pupils, when he taught school at "New Salisbury." The Gloucester News publishes Mr. Webster's prompt answer to his old friend and early teacher, and remarks:

"We doubt if any letter that Mr. Webster has written to public bodies, or any of the thousand great and noble acts of his life, reflect more credit upon him than this kind letter and generous gift to his aged and unfortunate old schoolmaster." It *is* indeed a beautiful letter, alike honorable to the head and heart of the writer; and, as the editor of the News remarks, "at a time when envy and malice are dealing blows from all quarters at America's greatest statesman, when his public course is decried and execrated by political opponents and the basest charges are brought against his moral character," it sheds upon his name and character a fresh glory, that, long after his petty traducers shall be dead and forgotten, will remain undimmed in the hearts of his countrymen.

Here is the letter of Mr. Webster, and its *value* and interest are enhanced by the fact that no allusion is made in it to an enclosed fifty dollar bank note:

WASHINGTON, FEBRUARY 26, 1851.

MASTER TAPPAN: I thank you for your letter, and am rejoiced to hear that you are yet among the living. I remember you perfectly well as a teacher in my infant years. I suppose my mother must have taught me to read very early, as I have never been able to recollect the time when I could not read the Bible. I think Master Chase was my earliest schoolmaster, probably when I was three or four years old. Then came Master Tappan. You boarded at our house, and sometimes I think in the family of Mr. Benjamin Sanborn, our neighbor, the lame man. Most of those whom you knew in "New Salisbury" have gone to their graves. Mr. John Sanborn, the son Benjaman, is yet living, and is about your age. Mr. John Colby, who married my eldest sister, Susannah, is also living. On the "North Road" is Mr. Benjamin Hunton, and on the "South Road" is Mr. Benjamin Pettingail. I think of none else among the living whom you would probably remember.

You have indeed lived a chequered life. I hope you have been able to bear prosperity with meekness, and adversity with patience. These things are all ordered for us, far better than we could order them for ourselves. We may pray for our daily bread; we may pray for the forgiveness of sins; we may pray to be kept from temptation, and that the Kingdom of God may come in us, and in all men, and his will everywhere be done. Beyond this we hardly know for what good to supplicate the Divine mercy. Our Heavenly Father knoweth what we have need of better than we know ourselves, and we are sure that his eye and his loving kindness are upon us and around us every moment.

I thank you again, my good old master, for your kind letter, which has awakened many sleeping recollections; and with all good wishes I remain your friend and pupil, DANIEL WEBSTER.

Mr. James Tappan.

☞ We have been favored by some curious genius with a remarkable correspondence, which, in view of that published above, may be styled, a remarkable coincidence. Because great men, however, think alike sometimes, it does not follow that they plagiarize from one another.—*Ed. Era.*

SCHOOL-MARM AND SCHOLAR.

AN INTERESTING CORRESPONDENCE.

MISTER EDITUR: I have just got a letter from my old pewpill, Mister Jeremiah Swamscot, Esq., Justiss of the Peas, which I want you to lay afore the people, for it's high time they knowed somethin about his hidden vartues. I don't expect he'll like my exposin his privit letter, for he charged me not on no account to let it git into the papers—but he wants to see the proof, and says he hopes you'll accommerdate him with copies for general sirculation. No more at present. Yourn to command,

BETSY SIMPKINS.

MASHMEDDERS, *March*, 1851.

DEAR AUNT BETSY: I'm ebleeged to you for your friendly and pious epistle, and am rejoiced to hear that you are so much better of your rumatiz. I am glad you warnt afeard to write to me. I'm only a man arter all, and desire not to be puffed up by worldly prosperity. I remember you parfectly well, as one who taught my infant idees how to shute. But it's my opinion that nobody larned me to read. I suppose that readin was born with me, for I can't recollect the time when I couldn't read the New England Primor—and the very fust thing I was heerd to say was—

"In Adam's fall, we sinned all."

I think that Granny Sims was my fust school-marm, probably when I was a year or two old. Then came Aunt Betsy. I remember your old motter—"spare the rod, and spile the child," and you *did* lay on the birch. But I sposo it was all for my good.

You boarded round, you know—sometimes with our folks, and sometimes with Deacon Cephas Billins, the bow-legged man. Most of the fammerlies in that deestrict is broke up, and changed some way. Mister Jedediah Billins, son of the Deacon, is alive yit, and somewhere nigh—yes, I should say, jest about as old as you be. Mister Hiram Stebbins, who married one of my fust wife's relations, has gone to California. In East Parish is Mister Jacob Bigelow, and in West Parish is Mister Jacob Hubbell. I can't think of anybody else you'd care to hear about, except it be your old beau, Cap'en Jeshurin Leggit. I believe you broke his heart, for he's a single man to this day, and keeps a grocery store down on Pickerel Pint.

You've lived a humble sort of a checkered-apron life, and I hope you have been able to bare advarsity with pashence. As for me, I *have* come on in the world amazingly. Sense I have ben a Justiss of the Peas, Providence has been most marciful to me. My cups have run over. I set under my own grape-vines and ride in my own carryall. These things are *ordered* for us far better than we can order them for ourselves. I have larned to watch and prey. The people pervide for me They are my *green* pastures, and I shall not want.

Perhaps, my dear marm, you may be surprised at my quotin' Scriptur at sech a rate, for you mayn't remember me as given to religion, in any particular way. But I've larned that piety is becomin' to a ruler—and then, I was always orthodox.

I make free to send you, herewith, ninepence. Don't have any scroople about exceptin' it. The fact is, I've lately decided an important case in a different way from what I meant to in the fust place—and this is a part of the considsration—a kind of a parquisit. We read that "the laburer is worthy of his hire." But who cares for ninspence, anyhow! You know I never was stingy.

I thank you agin, my good old school-marm, for your kind letter. It has waked up many sleepin' recollections. Do you remember Wattses pious cradle-hymn, and the excellent varse—

"Now I lay me down to sleep?"

My compliments to Mister Simpkins, your worthy husband. I am happy to hear that he and his noble sons stand by the Constitooshon. I may be induced to be a candidate for some office a leetle higher than a justisship. But on this subject *silentio profundo*—which means, keep dark!

Hopin' that you will continue well, and wishin' you good corn, rye, and tater crops, I remain

Your friend and pewpill,

JEREMIAH SWAMSCOT, *J. P.*

P. S. Have you read my letter on the agriculturial interests, to the great Onion meetin'? It actilly drew tears. J. S., *J. P.*

THE EUROPEAN WORLD.

The manner in which Nicholas strives to shut out liberalism from his Dominions—The persecutions of Wiseman taking a new chute—They are the result of the self-conceit of John Bull—The slender grounds on which Johnny bases his excellent opinion of himself—He wants more for his church, the best paid in the world—Her professions of State philanthropy are no more sincere than her church's claim to vital Christianity—More of her Indian policy—But 50,000 English hold the one hundred and fifty millions of Indians under her Government in subjection—The enormous salaries of civil functionaries there—The demoralized condition of the British army in India likely to lead to reforms.

NEW YORK, *March* 8, 1851.

To the Editor of the National Era:

By way of giving your readers something like a just conception of the manner in which frontier identity is preserved even as late as in 1851, in Europe, I will mention that the frontier between Russia and Poland ceased to exist from the 1st of January last, (old style,) and that the Emperor has extended "Russia" without any barrier, to the frontier of Germany, on the Prussian side. Along the whole of that line a military custom guard is stationed already. This guard is kept up with excessive vigilance. At a distance of every eighth of a German mile there is a military station, where a guard is kept always under arms. At night a watchfire burns at each such station, and sentinels walk from one to the other, meeting each other about midway. They report to the officer at the station, and then return. Patrols of cavalry keep up a supervision over the sentinels, the latter being well flogged for permitting any one to cross the frontier on their beat. All persons failing to answer their challenge are fired on. In a late snow the guard followed footprints just as hunters follow the tracks of a wild animal, and each sentinel, across whose beat such tracks were found, received fifty blows, if he had failed to give the alarm or to fire on the intruder. All this is done with the view to prevent the access of thought—knowledge—among the subjects of the illustrious Nicholas. Verily, it costs money in these days to shut out the progress of liberalism, if the expensive precautions of the Czar be a fair exemplar.

The hubbub against Catholicity raging so violently in England for some months past as to threaten seriously the repeal of the Catholic emancipation act, has fizzled out in unmeaning declarations from Lord John Russell, and two or three frivolous civil suits against Cardinal Wiseman, in which his adversaries appear evidently bent on trading before the courts of justice on the late unpopularity of the bull of the Pope conferring upon him a spiritual title with a local name. As yet, there is no telling whether that prejudice may not serve the place of evidence against "my Lord Cardinal Archbishop." To judge from the stubbornness with which well nigh all England has claimed for centuries that everything English is better than anything foreign, I shall not be surprised to find Wiseman sadly harassed in the discharge of the functions of his sacred office, by the finding of ignorant and self-conceited subjects of the Queen seated in jury boxes. He is the appointee of a foreign authority, which will probably prove sufficient with half the juries of the Kingdom to get a verdict against him, in any case in which he may be the defendant. You will recollect that for thirty years the demagogues of the Kingdom in and out of canonicals—scheming parsons and scoundrel politicians—had but to say "mounseer" to John Bull, to keep him leadable by the nose into debt to the verge of national bankruptcy. You must remember that to this day he glories in his Saxon ancestry, as though they were a breed of demigods under whose huge legs other men crept and crawled to find dishonorable graves, though history undeniably proves that they crouched like whipped spaniels at the feet of a handful of drunken Norman brutes. That, in fact, they were conquered quite as easily by the Normans, as the aboriginees of this country by our forefathers. They will never learn, it appears, the lesson of the wise—to know themselves.

Why, within 30 years, to be a radical in England, was to subject one's self to be hunted like a rat; and all know that, in freeing themselves from this liability, they acted on the suggestions of religious fanaticism, rather than at the demand of freedom or political wisdom. Even so late as last month, a Jew dealer having been falsely accused of inducing a youth to rob his employer, the Kingdom became so convulsed over the event as to threaten, through quite a number of newspapers, to get up an agitation for the enactment of laws to take away all political privileges enjoyed by persons professing the religion of the mother of our Saviour. Due investigation proved the accusation to have been maliciously and deliberately false. Yet all England continues to shout, "Down with the Jews!" This dogged sentiment of self-superiority it is, which makes the growth of sound liberalism so slow among the British masses, and its influence so slight on the foreign policy of the British Government. I can myself remember when, according to what one read in the English papers of the day, the terms "dissolute society," "Polish serfs," "frog-eating Frenchmen," "German mysticism," and "Frenchified notions," were even more potent than they are now, though their use by politicians and the church *does* continue to sentence the Kingdom to hungry bellies and crippled trade. This, be it remembered, is in the face of the fact that, for her population, England is cursed with more criminals, paupers, and infidels, and has fewer persons in her limits who can read and write, than in most of the Continental States.

While England is thus governed by her really time-honored self-estimation, it is not wonderful that she should abuse the church of Rome roundly for daring to strike a blow at *her* church. By the bye, it is proposed to raise by voluntary subscription, four millions sterling per annum for the home clergy of the church. The demand is made to settle more curates, and to increase the pay of many of those already settled. Even though essayed in the name of the branch of the church of England notoriously well nigh starved, it is supremely impudent.

The aggregate paid to the clergy of the church of Rome, with her charge of 200,000,000 souls, is not so much as the English hierarchy receives with its congregation of 6,000,000, all told! Of this revenue, the Protestant Archbishop of Canterbury receives annually £30,000; while the Popish Archbishop of Paris was paid but £800. The former lies close in Lambeth Palace, hatching strife between Protestants and Catholics; and the latter, it will be remembered, not long since met his death in the streets of the French capital, a martyr to his Master's business literally. He was killed in passing to and fro, the messenger of peace between brothers in arms, panting for each others' blood. But her church professions of religion are hardly a whit less mendacious than her vaunts of philanthropy; for her conquests are not better than those of buccaneers and highwaymen. Of these facts we have recent proof in the scandalous cruelty and glaring injustice of her dealings with the Dutch natives of the Cape, the Boers, and Caffres, in the paternal ravages of Brooke at Sarawan, and the horrors of Torrington's atrocities in Ceylon, where the innocent and unoffending blood is not yet dry on British sabres.

But I turn sick at heart whenever comparing English professions with English practice. We must, however, give her the poor credit of triumphing in nearly all her monstrous schemes of self-aggrandizement, which she does by setting at naught all the principles of love for the human race, of which she prates as being cherished almost alone by her, whenever assuming to interfere in the private affairs of other nations.

India furnishes a striking illustration of the great difference between her professions and practice. A few weeks since I gave your readers some account of the condition of things in that quarter, by no means exhausting the theme on that occasion. In that connection, permit me to add, that she has but some fifty thousand native born (English) subjects in her Indian Empire, all of whom, or very nearly all of whom, realize enormous profits from the labors of the natives of that region. The French, Danes, and Dutch, within the last century, have been driven before her arms out of India. She has also overcome the Great Mogul, his deputy of Bengal, Hyder Ali's empire, and those of the Makrattas and the Sikhs. Indeed, from the Indus to the Berhampoota, and from Cape Cormoven to the Himmalayah mountains, there are none of the millions of bitter enemies of Britain in that quarter, who dare meet a single British squadron in the field. Not a petty potentate among them dare raise his little finger to Britain's detriment. Of these fifty thousand Englishmen before referred to, many are civilians; nevertheless, owing to the utter disregard of their Government's lavish professions of philanthropy, they rule with a rod of iron over one hundred and fifty millions of outlandish and heterogeneous men, who pay into the British Exchequer a nett revenue of perhaps eighteen millions sterling. Much of this tribute is in the shape of salaries and military pensions, and the remainder, for the most part, consists of interest on commercial stock, mercantile debt, and mercantile pensions. England's standing army is one-fourth larger than it would be without her Indian possessions to guard and extend. She keeps, directly and indirectly, a native army above two hundred and fifty thousand strong, officered partially only by Englishmen; and about a thousand Englishmen hold civil offices in India. There are three rich Satrapis, the holders of which are paid an annual aggregate of £55,000! The commanders-in-chief are almost as well paid; and she has there eight judges who receive from £4,500 to £7,000 each, per annum. The various governors, and the two commanders-in-chief have eleven councillors in all, who receive an aggregate of £98,000 per annum.

Recent courts-martial developments prove that the subordinates (civil and military) in India, though paid in proportion to these enormous rates of their chiefs' salaries given above, fail to live within their income. They are famous for drinking unpaid-for wine, and riding unpaid-for horses, until this abuse of running into debt has become so characteristic of the English army in India, as to stamp it for the most demoralized corps now serving any European Government. Sir Charles Napier, late commander-in-chief of the Indian army, has very recently published a grave lecture to the juniors of the service, in which he has proved (to the satisfaction of all but themselves) that, instead of being *gentlemen*, a large majority of them are swindlers, who, in civilized countries would be kept between the four walls of a prison, as such scoundrels should be. So long as they cheated only the Indian, just so long did these derelictions from the path of individual rectitude pass uncommented upon—for they were but following the example of their Government, on a less scale. But having exhausted the patience of the original dupe, they are obliged to give up their licentious and profligate habits, or to prey on English born merchants and tradesmen for the future. True to their nature as spendthrifts, they of course adopt the latter alternative; and, true to her abiding sense of right and wrong *where her own pocket is alone concerned*, England begins to cry aloud against the state of the Indian army. It is to be hoped that the spirit of popular indignation now being concentrated against the morale of that branch of England's military service, may lead those who after all regulate the Government—the property-holders of the Kingdom—to realize that, if it is admitted that money, improvidently expended, does no good to those thus squandering it, after all India fails to be of substantial advantage to the British Exchequer. When this sentiment becomes common throughout the Island, British philanthropists will surely turn their attention to the amelioration of the Government in India, which will encourage reforms of all descriptions, in insisting on the practice of rules of economy to this time utterly unknown in that quarter.

LIBERALIST.

DOMESTIC MARKETS.

NEW YORK, *March* 10, 1851.

About a half million of dollars in specie were shipped from this port on Saturday last, for New Orleans.

Flour market without activity—$4.43 a $4.50 for common to straight State brands; Southern, $4.62 a $4.75; and some choice lots of Georgetown, $4.87 a $4.94; Genesee, $4.81 a $4.94. Corn meal, $3.06¼ a $3.12½. Rye flour unchanged.

Grain quiet. Genesee wheat, $5.14; red, 98 cts. a $1.02. Corn 65 a 66 cents for mixed and yellow. Oats, 46 a 48 cents. Rye, 75 cents.

Provisions steady. Old mess pork, $12.87. Bacon unchanged. Lard, 8⅝ to 8⅞ per pound.

PHILADELPHIA, *March* 10, 1851.

Flour dull at $4.43; some buyers are not willing to give this. Corn meal and rye flour unchanged.

Grain quiet. Red wheat, 95 a 99 cents; white, $1.02 a $1.11. Corn without change, 60 cents for yellow. Oats, 42 a 46 cents. Rye, 70 cents.

Provisions are in steady demand.

BALTIMORE, *March* 10, 1851.

Beef Cattle.—Prices ranging from $3 to $4 per 100 lbs. on the hoof, equal to $6 a $7.75 net, and averaging $3.62 gross.

Hogs.—$6.75 a $7 per 100 lbs.

Flour and Meal.—The flour market quiet and dull. There were sellers of Howard street brands at $4.37½, but no buyers.

Grain and Seeds.—Wheat is dull; good to prime red, 95 a 99 cents; and whites, $1 a $1.12. Corn quiet—white and yellow, 58 a 59 cents. Rye, 68 cents. Oats, 40 a 42 cents. Clover seed, $5.12½ a $5.25 for prime.

Provisions.—A steady demand. Old mess pork, $12.50 a $12.87½—some holding at $13. Bacon firm; prices unchanged. Lard, 8⅞ a 9¼ cents, in barrels and kegs.

FROM THE CHEROKEE COUNTRY.

Opinion of Dr. J. B. Randall on the Merits of Wistar's Balsam of Wild Cherry.

"MARIETTA, GA., *February* 14, 1848.

"We have been induced, in consequence of the benefits received from this medicine, to add our testimony in favor of its extraordinary healing properties. We take great pleasure in stating that we have frequently used it ourself, and administered it to others, during the past year, in cases of obstinate coughs, colds, soreness of the chest, &c., and always with the most happy result. We therefore cheerfully recommend to all afflicted with the above diseases, to TRY *the Balsam of Wild Cherry*."

The *New York Evening Mirror* says:

"Wistar's Balsam is still working wonders in curing the most desperate pulmonary diseases. We have not only witnessed its effects, but have seen a great many certificates which place the efficacy of this invaluable medicine beyond all question. It was a custom among the early settlers of New England to drink freely of wild cherry tea in cases of colds and fevers. This tea was made by steeping the twigs and bark of the wild cherry tree, of which they drank freely morning and evening. The old Puritan Fathers used to regard it as 'the sovereignest thing on earth' for all sorts of complaints; and there can be no doubt but the Balsam prepared by Dr. Wistar is one of the very best articles for Consumption that has yet been discovered."

☞ None genuine unless signed *I. BUTTS* on the wrapper.

Originally prepared by Williams & Co., Philadelphia; now prepared and sold, Wholesale and Retail, only by *SETH W. FOWLE*, Boston, Mass., to whom all orders should be addressed, and for sale by his agents throughout the country.

For sale also by—

R. S. PATTERSON, Washington, D. C.
FREDERICK BROWN, Philadelphia.
A. B. & D. SANDS, New York.

☞ *FOWLERS & WELLS, Phrenologists and Publishers*, Clinton Hall, 131 Nassau street, New York. Office of the *Water Cure* and *Phrenological Journals*.

OSAGE ORANGE SEED.

I HAVE just received and offer for sale a lot of these seeds, which I believe to be in every way reliable.

They were gathered during the present winter by Mr. James Sumpter, of Union county, Indiana, who went out to Texas for the express purpose of procuring good seed for his own planting.

His knowledge of the hedging business, and personal interest in the matter, are sufficient guarantee that every precaution has been used to select none but seeds of undoubted vitality, and that the proper care has been taken in their collection and preservation.

As I have no other seed on hand, purchasers can depend upon having their orders filled from this lot; and I shall be pleased to furnish samples, by mail or otherwise, to all who desire to test its quality.

Printed directions for cultivation accompany each parcel sold. E. B. HINMAN,
Northeast corner of Main and Lower Market
March 13—9t streets, Cincinnati, Ohio.

LITTELL'S LIVING AGE.

CONTENTS OF No. 356.—Price, twelve and a half cents.

1. Philip Doddridge.—*North British Review.*
2. My Novel; or, Varieties in English Life; chap. 13 to 29—*Blackwood's Magazine.*
3. Mr. Whitney's Pacific Railway.—*Morning Chronicle.*
4. Flax, a Substitute for Cotton.—*Ib.*
5. Rise of the Military to Power.—*Daily News.*
6. Separate Judicial from Legislative Power.—*Times.*
7. Birthday of California.—*Ib.*
8. Military Crisis in Europe.—*United Service Magazine.*

With Short Articles, Poetry, and New Books.

WASHINGTON, *December* 27, 1845.

Of all the Periodical Journals devoted to literature and science, which abound in Europe and in this country, this has appeared to me to be the most useful. It contains indeed the exposition only of the current literature of the English language; but this, by its immense extent and comprehension, includes a portraiture of the human mind in the utmost expansion of the present age.

J. Q. ADAMS.

Published weekly, at six dollars a year, by
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Corner of Tremont and Bromfield streets, Boston.

☞ For sale by JOSEPH SHILLINGTON, corner of Four-and-a-half street and Pennsylvania avenue, Washington.

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A SERIES of *twelve* or *fifteen* Original Pamphlets, of the above title, is in the course of publication at Cincinnati, Ohio, by L. A. HINE, whose thorough study of the various questions of Reform cannot fail to make them acceptable to all liberal minds. They are issued at irregular intervals, according to circumstances; but, as near as may be, they will be issued monthly. They will embrace the great questions touching the relations of man to nature, and of mankind among themselves in every sphere of life; and their aim will be to hasten the time when greater liberty, more equality, and a purer fraternity, will secure to all the highest happiness of which they are individually capable.

Terms.—Ten cents single number, one dollar per dozen, or one dollar for the series. Each number contains 32 pages, beautifully printed and neatly covered. Direct to
March 13—6m L. A. HINE, Cincinnati, Ohio.

LOST,

ON Sunday afternoon, March 9th, a Gold Breastpin, set with garnets and pearls in the form of a crescent, and having a chain and tassels. The finder will be suitably rewarded by leaving it at this office. March 13.

AGENCY FOR CLAIMS.

THE undersigned, having had several years' experience in one of the public Departments of Washington offers his services to claimants for military and naval pensions, invalid pensions, bounty land, &c. His experience and practical acquaintance with the minor details of business transacted in the accounting offices, and his knowledge of the decisions made in the adjudication of claims, enable him to offer his services with the confident assurance of procuring early and satisfactory action on all claims presented by him.

He will give his personal attention in the settlement of all claims against the United States—such as expense incurred in the organization of volunteers; accounts of recruiting officers; claims for horses lost or property destroyed; privateer pensions; quartermasters, commissaries, and wagon masters' accounts; extra pay, back pay, rejected claims, and claims before Congress.

Naval Pensions.—In all cases where any officer, seaman, marine, engineer, fireman, or coal heaver, belonging to the United States navy, has died in the naval service of a wound received, or disease contracted, in the line of duty, leaving a widow or minor children, there is more or less pension due, the amount depending upon the circumstances of each particular case.

Mexican War.—In case of any officer or soldier, either of the regular army or volunteers, who died in the service during the late war with Mexico, or after leaving the service, of wounds received or diseases contracted in said service, leaving a widow, or children under sixteen years of age, there is a pension due to such widow or children.

It may be further stated, as a general rule, that in all cases where any officer of the regular army, or any officer or private soldier of the militia, including rangers, sea-fencibles, or volunteers, either in the war of 1812 or at any subsequent time, has died of wounds received in actual service, leaving a widow, or children under sixteen years of age, there is a pension due to such widow or children, or widow and children, as the case may be, if it has never been received.

Invalid Pensions.—All officers and privates, whether of the army, navy, militia, or volunteers, who have been at any time disabled in the service by wounds received or disease contracted while in the line of duty, are entitled to pensions, the amount depending upon the rank of the invalid and the degree of disability.

In many of the public offices, and in the Pension Office particularly, there is a great number of suspended and rejected claims, many of which could be established, if put into the hands of an efficient agent at the seat of Government, who is thoroughly acquainted with that branch of business.

All letters addressed to *A. M. GANGEWER, Washington, D. C.*, (the postage being paid) making inquiries in regard to claims, will be promptly attended to. Claims for *pension, back pay,* and *extra pay*, will be attended to without charge, unless they are successfully prosecuted in which case he will charge a reasonable per centage upon the sum recovered.

Persons writing to him in regard to claims, should communicate all the facts of the case, in *as full a manner as possible.* Especially, in all claims for pension, extra or back pay, or bounty lands, the name of the officer or soldier, the time and place of his enlistment, the company and regiment in which he served, the length of time he served, &c., should be fully stated.

He will send forms and instructions, when sufficient facts are communicated to enable him to determine what laws are applicable to the case. A. M. GANGEWER,
March 13, 1851.—6m *Washington, D. C.*

LITTELL'S LIVING AGE.

CONTENTS OF No. 357.—Price, twelve and a half cents.

1. London in 1851.—*Fraser's Magazine.*
2. New Nation on the Pacific.—*Dublin University Magazine.*
3. Letter from Humboldt.—*Daily Advertiser.*
4. Duelling in England.—*The Times.*
5. Southey and the Quarterly Review.—*Examiner.*
6. Historic Certainties.—*Ib.*
7. Elizabeth Barrett Browning's Poems.—*Ib.*
8. Latimer and Ridley.—*Blackwood's Magazine.*
9. Remains of Arthur Henry Hallam.—*North British Review.*
10. Samuel Lover.—*Dublin University Magazine.*

Poetry. New Books. Short Articles.

Of all the periodical journals devoted to literature and science which abound in Europe and in this country, this has appeared to me to be the most useful. It contains indeed the exposition only of the current literature of the English language; but this, by its immense extent and comprehension, includes a portraiture of the human mind in the utmost expansion of the present age.

J. Q. ADAMS.

Washington, December 27, 1845.

Published weekly, at six dollars a year, by
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For sale by JOSEPH SHILLINGTON, corner of Four-and-a half street and Pennsylvania avenue.

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DEALERS IN CHEAP PUBLICATIONS, &c., Smithfield street, between Second and Third, PITTSBURGH, PA. This is the most extensive Cheap Publication House in the West, where may always be found the principal Magazines, and new and old Novels, Annuals, Gift Books, &c.

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The *National Era* and other periodicals are kept for sale.
Feb. 13—1y G

THE FRIEND OF YOUTH.

THIS new and attractive journal for Youth, edited by Mrs. Bailey, and published at Washington, can be had at the *Boston Agency for the National Era*, 3 Cornhill. Price, by mail, 50 cents a year; delivered in Boston, free postage, 75 cents. GEORGE W. LIGHT,
Nov. 25. 3 Cornhill, Boston.

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WATER POWER FOR SALE OR RENT.

A COMMODIOUS building in New Brighton, Beaver county, Pennsylvania, heretofore used as a woollen factory, 40 by 96 feet, and three stories high, with abundance of water power. The water power is one of the most eligible on Beaver Falls, and the wheels and motive power are new. The whole concern is not surpassed in the advantages it offers for manufacturing.

Some dwelling-houses handsomely situated, and water power and town lots, for sale in the same place; a farm and lots of land in the vicinity; also, a few town lots on the canal, in Allegheny city; and also, 200 acres of land, partially improved, of excellent quality, in Hillsdale county, Michigan. Inquire of A. W. TOWNSEND,
Real Estate Agent.

New Brighton, Penn. 1st mo. 24, 1851.—Feb 6.

CALIFORNIA PASSENGER OFFICE,

No. 179 Broadway, New York.

THE United States mail steamers leave New York on the 11th and 26th of every month; through in 35 days. Circulars containing important information sent *gratis* to order. Everybody is invited to send for one.

Address, postage paid,
Feb. 6—8t ARNOLD BUFFUM & CO.

LARD FOR OIL.

LARD WANTED.—Cash paid for corn, mast, and slop-fed Lard. Apply to
THOMAS EMERY, Lard Oil Manufacturer,
Jan. 20. 22 Water street, near Walnut, Cincinnati, O.

NEW LINE OF REGULAR PACKETS.

New York, Alexandria, Washington, and Georgetown Packets.

SCHR. *PAMPERO*, Geo. Penfield, master.
VOLANT, Morrice Osborn, "
TOWNSEND JONES, S. W. Dayton, "
MOTT BEDELL, John Bedell, "
ANN D., Benjamin Bedell, "
LE ROY, William Powell, "

One of the above packets leaves New York and George town weekly.

AGENTS.—*MOTT BEDELL* and *WM. E. JONES*, No. 104 Wall street, New York; *CAZANOVE & CO.* Alexandria, Virginia; *PETER BERRY*, Georgetown, D. C. Jan. 9.

GROTE'S HISTORY OF GREECE.

First American from the second London Edition.

BY GEORGE GROTE, ESQ.

JOHN P. JEWETT & CO., of Boston, announce to the Literati and to the Trade that they have in press the great work of Mr. Grote, of London,

The History of Greece, in 10 volumes.

The first volume, containing Legendary Greece and Grecian History to the reign of Pisistratus at Athens, *IS THIS DAY PUBLISHED.*

The second volume will be issued in a few days, and the remaining volumes will follow in rapid succession. Each volume will make a 12mo of about 500 pages, printed and bound in good style, and will be sold at 75 cents a volume, with the usual discount to the Trade.

This work is considered by literary men, both in this country and Europe, one of the most thorough and learned histories to be found of any country, in any language.

Orders from the Trade solicited.
Feb. 13—4t 17 *and* 19 *Cornhill, Boston.*

COMMISSION STORE.

WM. GUNNISON, *General Commission Merchant*, 101 *Bowly's Wharf, Baltimore, Md.* Dec. 23.—1y

CALIFORNIA STEAMERS,

NEW LINE, for 26th of March, May, July, September, and November. Through in 35 days. Passage secured, by early application, in cabin for $325; second cabin, $280; steerage, only $150. Information circulars sent gratis to order. Office, 179 Broadway, New York.
Feb. 27—8t ARNOLD BUFFUM & CO.

ADAMS HOUSE, BOSTON, MASS.

REGULATIONS.

GENTLEMEN are requested to enter their names upon the Register, at the Office, immediately upon their arrival.

Gentlemen taking rooms will be charged from the time their names are entered, and no deduction will be made for absence, unless notice is given at the Office.

Gentlemen are requested, on leaving their rooms, to lock the doors, and deposite the keys at the Office.

Gentlemen who desire washing done are requested to inform the clerk, stating the time they wish the same returned.

Private parlors and fires, with all meals and lunches sent to rooms, will be subject to an extra charge.

Guests inviting friends to the table will please give notice at the Office before seating them.

Gentlemen are requested not to smoke in any of the halls or apartments above the Office.

Regular boarders will be presented with their bills monthly. No deduction will be made for absence less than one week; and it is expected that notice will be given of the same, at the time, to the clerk.

Our patrons will confer a favor by giving notice of any inattention or disorder in the establishment.

The Adams House is to be conducted upon the principles of Temperance, and all habits of drinking, gaming, or of otherwise immoral character, are prohibited upon the premises.

Social worship, in which all are invited to participate, will be attended every evening in the drawing room, at a quarter past nine, the hour indicated by the ringing of the gong.
Dec. 12—oly DANIEL CHAMBERLIN.

FRIENDS' ASYLUM FOR THE INSANE.

THIS Institution is situated in a pleasant and healthy part of the country, about five miles north of the city of Philadelphia. It is under the care of Dr. Joshua H. Worthington, Superintendent, and William and Mary D. Birdsall, Steward and Matron, and is visited weekly by a Committee of the Managers.

The Asylum was founded in the year 1813, by members of the Society of Friends, with a view of affording to those afflicted with insanity the domestic comforts usually found in a private family, combined with kind and efficient moral and medical treatment.

Application for the admission of patients may be made either personally or by letter addressed to
CHARLES ELLIS,
Clerk of the Board of Managers, No. 56 Chestnut street, Philadelphia, or to
WILLIAM BETTLE,
Secretary of the Committee on Admissions, No.
Jan. 9. 14 South Third street, Philadelphia.

PHILADELPHIA, WILMINGTON, AND BALTIMORE RAILROAD.

WINTER SCHEDULE.

Three Fast Lines to Philadelphia, Daily, (except Sundays.)

FARE IN EACH, THREE DOLLARS.

ON and after Monday, 2d December, the mail and passenger trains to Philadelphia will be run as follows, viz:

Morning Mail Train, stopping at way stations, will leave the Company's *New Depot*, President street, at 9 o'clock, daily, (except Sundays,) through in five and a half hours. To this train a *second class car* will be attached, the fare in which will be two dollars, and the ticket for which must be procured in the office before starting, as none can be sold in the car.

Express Train, stopping only at Havre de Grace and Wilmington, through in four and a half hours, will leave the Depot, President street, daily, (except Sundays,) at 11 o'clock, A. M., reaching Philadelphia in time to connect with the evening line for New York. Passengers leaving Washington in the 9 o'clock, A. M., train will thus be enabled to reach New York by 9 in the evening.

Night Mail Train, stopping at all the regular stations on the road, will leave the President street Depot every night at 9 o'clock—being the only line on Sundays.

Returning, the trains will leave Philadelphia, respectively, at half past 8 A. M., 3 P. M., and half past 10 P. M., arriving in Baltimore about 2 P. M., half past 7 P. M., and 5 A. M.

NOTICE.—Tickets for the above lines must be procured at the office. Baggage by the above lines is at its owner's risk, and passengers are expressly prohibited taking anything as baggage but wearing apparel. Fifty pounds allowed each passenger. A. CRAWFORD,
Baltimore November 29, 1850—Jan. 9. Agent.

REGULAR LINE.

New York, Alexandria, Washington and Georgetown Packets.

SCHR. *FAIRFAX*, C. Penfield, master.
EMPIRE, Rufus Knapp, "
STATESMAN, J. D. Cathell, "
WASHINGTON, J. Kendrick "
SENATOR, W. Kirby, "
HAMILTON, A. Dayton, "
ARLINGTON, H. Lewis "

One of these vessels will sail from New York on Saturday of each week, (or oftener,) during the business season; and returning leave Georgetown and Alexandria weekly.

For freight or passage apply to the masters on board, or to
STURGES, CLEARMAN, & CO.,
110 Wall street, New York.
S. SHINN & SON, Alexandria.
Jan. 9. F. & A. H. DODGE, Georgetown.

A NEW ROUTE TO PITTSBURG,

Via the Baltimore and Susquehanna and Pennsylvania Railroads.

THROUGH TO PITTSBURG IN THIRTY-THREE HOURS.

AN express train of cars will leave Calvert station daily with the *United States Mail* from Washington and Baltimore at half past 8 o'clock, A. M., connecting with the fast line on the Pennsylvania Railroad at Middletown, at 1, P. M., arriving at Harrisburg at half past 1, P. M., to dinner.

The train leaves Harrisburg for the West at 2, P. M., arriving at Hollidaysburg at 8, P. M. At this point passengers have the option of taking either the cars to Johnstown, thence by packet boats, or stages direct from Hollidaysburg to Pittsburg.

Tickets will be sold to the following points by the train, to wit: York, Wrightsville, Columbia, Marietta, Middletown, Harrisburg, Newport, Millerstown, Perrysville, Lewistown, McVeytown, Huntington, Hollidaysburg, and Pittsburg.

This train also connects with the Cumberland Valley Railroad, which passes through Carlisle, Shippensburg, Chambersburg, and other points on the road.

For the accommodation of passengers from Washington for any of the above points, the baggage master of the company will be at the depot of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company on the arrival of the morning cars at 8 o'clock. A. M., to receive the baggage, which will be carried free of charge to Calvert station.
Jan. 9. ROBERT STEWART, Ticket Agent.

THE NEW YORK AND LIVERPOOL UNITED STATES MAIL STEAMERS.

THE ships composing this line are—
The ATLANTIC, *Captain West*
The PACIFIC, *Captain Nye.*
The ARCTIC, *Captain Luce.*
The BALTIC, *Captain Comstock.*
The ADRIATIC, *Captain Grafton.*

These ships having been built by contract expressly for Government service, every care has been taken in their construction, as also in their engines, to insure strength and speed; and their accommodations for passengers are unequalled for elegance or comfort.

Price of passage from New York to Liverpool, $130. Exclusive use of extra-size state rooms, $325 and $300. From Liverpool to New York, £35.

An experienced surgeon will be attached to each ship.

No berth can be secured until paid for.

PROPOSED DATES OF SAILING.

From New York. 1850.			*From Liverpool.* 1850.		
Saturday	October	12	Wednesday	October	30
Saturday	October	26	Wednesday	November	20
Saturday	November	16	Saturday	December	7
Saturday	November	30	Saturday	December	21
Saturday	December	14	1851.		
Saturday	December	28	Saturday	January	4
1851.			Saturday	January	18
Wednesday	January	8	Saturday	February	1
Wednesday	January	22	Saturday	February	15
Wednesday	February	5	Saturday	March	1
Wednesday	February	19	Saturday	March	15
Wednesday	March	5	Saturday	March	29

For freight or passage apply to
EDWARD K. COLLINS,
No. 56 Wall street, New York, or to
BROWN, SHIPLEY, & CO.,
Liverpool.

The owners of these ships will not be accountable for gold, silver, bullion, specie, jewelry, precious stones, or metals, unless bills of lading are signed therefor, and the value thereof expressed therein.

☞ After the first of April next, the rate of freight by the above steamers from Liverpool will be materially reduced. Jan 2.

NEW DAILY PAPER.

A LARGE number of earnest friends of Freedom, dissatisfied with the present condition of the party press, and desirous of having an organ which shall set forth, temperately but fearlessly, their sentiments and principles, have come forward and contributed, each one his mite, to a fund for that purpose.

That fund has been placed in the hands of Trustees, who will publish in the city of Boston, on the first day of January, 1851, a new daily paper, to be called

THE COMPASS,

and continue to publish the same every morning, except Sunday. It will set forth the principles of the

FREE SOIL PARTY,

but it will be truly a Free Paper, and not the bond servant of any cause, or any party, except that of

Freedom, Truth, and Humanity.

The Pole Star to which it will ever point will be the Right but the Right of All.

It will recognise the obligations of law, the necessity of order, and the duty of peace and good will to all men.

No pains or expense will be spared to make it a good Daily Paper—a commercial, political, and literary paper, worthy of the men who create it, and whose sentiments it will represent.

The names of the editors will be announced hereafter.

The price of the Daily will be five dollars; of the Weekly, two dollars—always in advance.

Subscriptions and applications for advertisements received, for the present, at No. 5 Water street.

Further particulars hereafter.

S. G. HOWE,
WILLIAM JACKSON,
F. W. BIRD,
JOHN P. JEWETT,
Boston, Dec. 28—Jan. 9. Trustees.

NEW YORK TAILORING ESTABLISHMENT,

BRANCH OF W. T. JENNINGS & CO., NEW YORK

Pennsylvania avenue, near Sixth street, Washington.

THE subscriber still continues to conduct the branch of the above establishment, where he has on hand a large assortment of *Cloths, Cassimeres, and Vestings*, which will be made up at the same prices and in the same style as New York.

Also on hand, a large stock of *Overcoats, Sack, Frock, and Dress Coats, Pants and Vests*, and every article necessary for a gentleman's wardrobe, that in every emergency gentlemen may be fitted with a fashionable suit without delay. Jan. 2. WALTER HOWE.

THE NATIONAL ERA.

SPEECH OF WILLIAM H. SEWARD

ON THE

MANAGEMENT AND DISPOSITION OF THE PUBLIC DOMAIN.

Delivered in the Senate of the United States, Feb. 27, 1851.

MR. PRESIDENT:

The organization of the American Republic is a political anomaly. Ancient and modern States, rudely constituted within narrow limits, have aggrandized themselves by colonies and conquests, while passing through various revolutions of government. But the world has never before seen a State assume a perfect organization in its very beginning, and extend itself over a large portion of a great continent, without conquests, without colonies, and without undergoing any change of constitution.

The success of Portugal and of the Netherlands in planting profitable commercial colonies in the East Indies, in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, stimulated nearly all the European States to attempt to secure similar advantages, by exploring and appropriating to themselves portions of the New World, then known as the Western Indies. Spain, Britain, and France, divided between themselves nearly all North America. Each of these Kingdoms, however, pursued a policy so rigorous as to hinder the growth of the colonies it planted.

The United States, in the Revolution of 1776, supplanted Great Britain in sovereignty over the region lying between the St. Lawrence and Louisiana and stretching from the Atlantic coast to the banks of the Mississippi.

The conquering States, practically independent of each other, were embarrassed by conflicting boundaries. The controversy was magnanimously ended, by an agreement that each should release its claim of unappropriated territory for the common use and benefit.

New York led the way, and ceded her claims as well of "political jurisdiction" as "of the right of soil," "to be and inure to the use and benefit of such of the United States as should become members of the Federal Alliance of the said States, and for no other use or purpose whatsoever."

Virginia claimed the broad region lying northwest of the Ohio, and relinquished it in 1785, with a declaration that it should "be considered as a common fund for the use and benefit of such of the United States as have become or shall become members of the Confederation or Federal Alliance of the said States, (Virginia inclusive,) according to their usual and respective proportions in the general charge and expenditure, and shall be faithfully and bona fide disposed of for that purpose, and for no other use or purpose whatsoever."

Massachusetts soon afterwards released to the United States, "for their benefit, Massachusetts inclusive."

Connecticut conveyed in 1786, in the same form.

South Carolina, in 1787, ceded "for the benefit of the United States, South Carolina inclusive."

North Carolina in 1790 conveyed by a deed containing the same declaration which had been used by Virginia, and Georgia completed the title of the United States by a cession on the same terms, attended with other stipulations which are not now important.

The Constitution of the United States, adopted in the course of this great transaction, sanctioned it as follows: "The Congress shall have power to dispose of, and make all needful rules and regulations respecting, the territory or other property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to prejudice any claims of the United States, or of any particular State."—*Art.* 14, *Sec.* 3.

The Continental Congress had previously adopted the Ordinance of 1787, by which they established a Government in the Northwestern Territory, and provided for its future subdivision into States. With a view to that great political purpose, the Constitution declared that "New States may be admitted by the Congress into this Union."—*Art.* 5, *Sec.* 3.

The purchase of Louisiana from France in 1803, the acquisition of Florida by a grant from Spain in 1819, the discovery of Oregon, and the recent purchase of New Mexico and Upper California, extended our domain along the shores of the Gulf of Mexico to the Rio Grande, and from its head waters across the Rocky Mountains and the Snowy Hills to the Pacific Ocean. The aggregate quantity of this national estate is fifteen hundred and eighty-four millions of acres; of which, one hundred and thirty-four millions have been definitively appropriated, and there remain, including appropriations not yet perfected, fourteen hundred and fifty millions of acres.

Using only round numbers, these lands are distributed among the States and Territories, as follows:

In Ohio	745,000 acres.
Indiana	2,751,000
Illinois	14,060,000
Missouri	29,216,000
Alabama	17,238,000
Mississippi	14,308,000
Louisiana	22,854,000
Michigan	24,864,000
Arkansas	27,402,000
Florida	31,801,000
Iowa	27,153,000
Wisconsin	26,331,000
Minnesota	56,000,000
Northwest Territory	376,000,000
Oregon Territory	218,536,000
Nebraska Territory	87,488,000
Indian Territory	119,789,000
California and Utah	287,162,000
New Mexico	49,727,000

The domain came to the United States encumbered with a right of possession by Indian tribes, which is gradually extinguished by purchase, as the necessities of advancing population require.

At the establishment of the Federal Government the United States suffered from exhaustion by war, and labored under the pressure of a great national debt, while they were obliged to make large expenditures for new institutions, and to prepare for defence by land and by sea. They therefore adopted a policy which treated the domain merely as a fund or source of revenue. They divided it into townships, sections, and quarter-sections, and offered it at public sale at a minimum price of two dollars per acre on credit, and subsequently at private sale on the same terms. In 1820 they abolished the credit system, and reduced the price to one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre. In 1833 they recognised a right of preëmption in favor of actual occupants, and the system, as thus modified, still remains in form upon our statute-book. The United States, however, have, at different times, made very different dispositions of portions of the domain. Thus there have been appropriated to the new States and Territories, for purposes of internal improvement, for saline reservations, for the establishment of seats of Government and public buildings, and for institutions of education, as follows:

To Ohio	1,847,575 acres.
Indiana	2,331,690
Illinois	1,649,024
Missouri	1,793,748
Alabama	1,473,994
Mississippi	1,384,944
Louisiana	1,332,124
Michigan	1,674,598
Arkansas	1,489,220
Wisconsin	217,920
Iowa	46,720
Florida	1,553,635

Besides these appropriations, the Senate will at once recall several acts of Congress, which surrendered, in the whole, 79,000,000 acres for bounties in the Mexican war, bounties in the war of 1812, subsequent gratuities to the soldiers in the same war and in Indian wars, cessions of swamp lands to new States, and for the construction of a railroad from Chicago to Mobile, and other internal improvements, none of which last-named cessions have yet been located.

The aggregate of revenues derived from the public domain is one hundred and thirty-five millions three hundred and thirty-nine thousand ninety-three dollars and ninety-three cents, showing an annual average revenue of one and a quarter million of dollars since the system of sales was adopted.

Mr. President, I think the time is near at hand when the United States will find it expedient to review their policy, and to consider the following principles:

FIRST. That lands shall be granted in limited quantities, gratuitously, to actual cultivators only.

SECOND. That the possessions of such grantees shall be secured against involuntary alienation.

THIRD. That the United States shall relinquish to the States the administration of the public lands within their limits.

These principles, sir, have no necessary connection. I shall therefore discuss them separately.

FIRST. A gratuitous allotment of lands in limited quantities to actual settlers and cultivators only. This principle involves three propositions:

1. A limitation of the quantity which shall be granted to any one person;

2. Occupation and cultivation as conditions of the grant;

3. A gratuitous grant.

FIRST. A limitation of the quantity to be allotted to any one person.

If the public lands were moveable merchandise, price would be the principal, if not the only subject of inquiry. On the contrary, it is only the money received by the Government on sales that perishes or passes away. The lands remain fixed just where they were before the sale, and they constitute a part of the territory subject to municipal administration as much after sale as before. The possessors of the land sold become soon, if not immediately, citizens, and they will ultimately be a majority of the whole population of the country supporting the Government by their contributions, maintaining it by their arms, and wielding it for their own and the general welfare. To look, then, at this subject merely with reference to the revenue that might be derived from the sale of the lands, would be to commit the fault of that least erected spirit that fell from Heaven, whose

> "Looks and thoughts
> Were always downward bent, admiring more
> The riches of Heaven's pavement, trodden gold,
> Than aught divine, or holy, else enjoyed."

All will admit—all do admit—that the domain should be so administered as to favor the increase of population, the augmentation of wealth, the cultivation of virtue, and the diffusion of happiness

I do not say that land in this or in any other country ought to be or ever could be divided, and enjoyed equally. I assert no such absurdity. But I do say, with some confidence, that great inequality of landed estates, here or elsewhere, tends to check population, enterprise, and wealth, and to hinder and defeat the highest interests of society. Every State in this Union recognises this principle, and guards against undue aggregation of estates by restraints upon accumulation, by inhibitions of entails, and by dividing inheritances. A partition of this vast public domain is inevitable. It has been going on ever since the lands were acquired. It is going on now. And it will go on hereafter with increasing rapidity. That partition affords us an opportunity to apply the same beneficent and invigorating policy in a new and benign form, without disturbing any existing estates, or interfering with any vested interests, and without disturbing any established laws or customs.

There is no arbitrary measurement of the portion of land which one possessor can advantageously cultivate. Yet there are, practically, dimensions within which lands are held for that purpose; and when these are exceeded, the surplus is held for purposes of commerce or speculation. Commerce in the public lands, although by no means immoral, nevertheless, ought to be regarded with jealousy. It diverts capital from active or productive industry, and prolongs the period before the land purchased can be made fruitful. Mortgages, judgments, and accidents of insolvency and of death, render the title uncertain and confused, and thus exclude the lands from market. Every one has seen in new countries extensive tracts of land upon which the speculator had laid his hand, and thus rendered them useless to himself, useless to the community, and useless or nearly so to the State. The want of some security against inconveniences so prejudicial to the States may now be supplied without producing any embarrassment to individuals or to the Government.

SECONDLY. The same policy seems to commend the principle of insisting on permanent occupation and cultivation as conditions of a grant of any portion of the public domain. It ought to be kept open and available to those who seek it for cultivation. It ought therefore to be kept free from absent owners, who, while they would exclude settlers, would leave it entirely unproductive, and who would pay to the State either nothing, or at most a tax that would poorly compensate for stamping sterility upon the soil.

The same principle that dictated the abandonment of the credit system in 1820 seems to prescribe now a limitation of the sales to actual settlers. Nor would the revenue derived from sales be affected by such a measure. The price of the land is fixed and uniform. If more lands are sold at one time under the present system than would be sold with such a limitation, a rest must follow, until the excess of lands sold above the actual supply of the market shall be taken off at a profit or loss from the hand of the speculator. The commercial revulsion of 1837, aggravated by wild and reckless speculations in the domain, gave us instructions on this subject which ought not to be neglected.

The Senator from Michigan, [Mr. FELCH,] who has discussed this subject with very great ability, dwells upon the difficulty of prescribing the evidence of occupancy and cultivation. But this difficulty would soon be removed if the system should be changed. A title might be withheld until improvements should be made sufficient to prevent a voluntary forfeiture.

THIRDLY. The question of making the grants of public lands gratuitously is one of more difficulty. By gratuitous grants I mean those which would be practically so, and that the lands thus disposed of should be charged with the costs of the grant.

The demand of one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre, or of two hundred dollars on a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, although it is not unjust, and although it may be necessary, is nevertheless, in its practical operation, a tax upon the privilege of cultivating the domain. But the first and fundamental interest of the Republic is the cultivation of its soil. That cultivation is the sole fountain of the capital or wealth which supplies every channel of industry. The more it is taxed, the less freely it will flow. It is true indeed that, notwithstanding this tax, labor seeks the soil within the new States and Territories, and that society advances there with a rapidity unparalleled. But it is equally true that the tax prevents the immigration of a very large mass of persons who are destitute of employment in the Eastern States, while it rejects even a greater mass of cultivators in Europe. We are competitors with the European States in agriculture and in manufactures. They have the advantages of cheaper labor and greater capital. We ought therefore to invite here the labor necessary to augment our productions, and the industry and skill required to prepare them for internal and foreign commerce. Can it be doubtful for a moment that it is our policy to bring the manufacturer to our own shores, and to invite the farmer to supply the wants of the artisan from our own unproductive lands?

Commercial supremacy demands just such an agricultural basis as the fertile and extensive regions of the United States, when inhabited, will supply. Political supremacy follows commercial ascendency. It was by reason of the want of just such an agricultural basis, that Venice, Portugal, and Holland, successively lost commerce and empire. It was for the purpose of securing just such a basis, that France, England, and Spain, seized so eagerly and held so tenaciously the large portions of this continent which they respectively occupied. It was for the purpose of supplying the loss of this basis, that England has within the last seventy years extended her conquests over a large portion of India.

We now possess this basis, and all that we need is to develop its capabilities as fully and as rapidly as possible. Nor ought we to overlook another great political interest. Mutual jealousies delayed a long time the establishment of the Union of these States, and have ever since threatened its dissolution. It is apparent that the ultimate security for its continuance is found in the power of the States established, and hereafter to be established, on the public domain. Those new and vigorous communities continually impart new life to the entire Commonwealth, while the absolute importance of free access to the Ocean will secure their loyalty, even if the fidelity of the Atlantic States shall fail. Such as these, sir, may have been some of the considerations that induced Andrew Jackson so long ago to declare his opinion, that the time was not distant when the public domain ought to cease to be regarded as a source of revenue. Such considerations may have had some influence with the late distinguished Senator from South Carolina, [J. C. CALHOUN,] to propose a release of the public domain to the States, on their paying a small per centum of revenue to the United States; and we are at liberty to suppose that a course of reasoning not entirely unlike this brought that eminent statesman, who is now Secretary of State, to propose here a year ago a gratuitous appropriation of the public domain to actual settlers.

Nevertheless, the practicability of such a policy, and its harmony with other national interests, are as yet by no means generally admitted. The first objection which it encounters is the economical one, that it would be unwise to GIVE AWAY the public lands. But the property *given* would remain with the *giver after* the gift, and would be enhanced in usefulness by the gift. All that we should *give away* by surrendering the public domain would be the revenue that might be derived from sales. The honorable Senator from Michigan pathetically asks, what new fountain shall be opened to supply the deficiency, if this one be closed? And has it come to this, sir: that the Federal Government, charged with only the burdens of national defence, of commerce, and of arbitrament between the States, while absolutely relieved from all responsibilities of municipal and domestic administration, yet enjoying unlimited power of indirect, as well as of even direct taxation, cannot sustain itself in a season of profound peace, without consuming the patrimony of the States? Sir, I answer the Senator's inquiry: The resource to supply the deficiency of a million and a quarter of dollars will be found in retrenchment of the expenses of administration.

A SENATOR. Will this Government ever retrench? Does the Senator from New York expect this Government to retrench?

Mr. SEWARD. No, sir, not while the revenue remains full. Reduce the revenue a million and a quarter, or even five millions, and you will find the expenses of the Government accommodate themselves to the reduction. Raise the revenue to a hundred millions, and you will find the expenses adjust themselves to that standard. Sir, if you are ever to have retrenchment, you must begin with reducing taxation. And where can you begin so well as with the taxation upon the privilege of cultivating the national estate? But, sir, we shall have no such deficiency of revenue to supply. Alarms of an exhausted treasury are continually sounded here, while the revenues received under a system of imposts, which in many respects is most unwise, annually exceed all estimates of administration. Last year, the Secretary of the Treasury predicted a deficiency of sixteen millions of dollars, and yet no deficiency at all occurred. The revenues for the present year are equally prosperous, and they will never be less prosperous while we are at peace, as I hope we shall always be, for the wealth and industry of the country are constantly increasing and expanding. I know, indeed, that revenue is liable to be affected by fluctuations of trade, but such disturbances are only occasional and temporary.

The Senator from Michigan exaggerates the prodigality of what he calls the *giving away* of the domain, by stating that it cost seventy-five millions of dollars—equivalent to twenty-two cents per acre, or thirty-two dollars and twenty cents for each farm of one hundred and sixty acres. And from such premises as these he argues that it would cost thirty-five millions of dollars to give away the public lands lying in Wisconsin, Iowa, Michigan, Missouri and Minnesota. Sir, I do not understand exactly the basis of the Senator's estimate of the cost of the domain, but I can, nevertheless, safely pronounce his speculations entirely fallacious. If the cost of the revolutionary war, the cost of the long controversy with France, which ended in the purchase of Louisiana, the cost of all the Indian wars, and the cost of the late war with Mexico, all of which were in some degree connected with the acquisition of the public domain, should be included in the estimate, the entire cost of the public lands would be seven hundred millions, instead of seventy-five millions of dollars. If, on the other hand, the expense account be credited with all the national benefits, financial, commercial, and political, which have been secured, the domain would be discharged from all indebtedness whatever to the Treasury.

Sir, the acquisition of the domain, whatever was its cost, is a transaction completed, ended, past. Its value is what it is worth now, not what it cost.

Mr. President, the question of such a disposition of the public lands as I have suggested is entirely misapprehended. It is not whether we shall relinquish a revenue of one and a quarter of millions. The revenue has ceased, and the fountain from which it flowed is dried up already.

We have by various acts, passed within the last ten years, given up seventy-eight millions nine hundred and thirty-two thousand five hundred and thirteen acres, which are now in market and coming into market, and which must be taken off from the hands of States and individuals before our own sales can be renewed. The Secretary of the Treasury assures us that the revenue from the public domain is suspended by this legislation for a period of sixteen years.

Sir, a revenue that is suspended for sixteen years, has practically ceased forever. The Senator from Michigan, perplexed with this argument, reviews the Treasury estimates, and reduces the period of exhaustion to eight years.

Sir, I say, then, to the Senator, that he has not changed the case.

A national revenue that is suspended for eight years has practically ceased forever. But, sir, neither the Senator from Michigan, nor even the Secretary of the Treasury, has estimated the period of exhaustion at its full length. Congress is annually making new appropriations. The Senate has at this session passed an act disposing of ten millions of acres. We all hope that that act will become a law, although its effect would be to add at least five years to the term for which the revenue from the domain is suspended. Let us then apprehend the emergency as it is, and act accordingly. The domain no longer yields, nor will never again yield a revenue. Since its financial benefits have ceased, let us no longer dispose of it by impulse and caprice, not to say by partiality or favor, but let us so dispose of it as to secure political and social benefits to the whole Union.

It is objected that the domain is pledged to public creditors. The debt charged upon the domain is $27,935,350, a debt which is rapidly diminishing, and, if we practice economy, will have disappeared by the appliance of revenues from customs alone, long before the public domain will yield a dollar, for even the payment of the interests on it. But if it be necessary to hold the public domain liable for the debt, we may properly set apart sufficient lands for that purpose, and let the residue be disposed of as other interests require.

The Senator from Michigan resisted the policy proposed, on the ground that it would reduce the value of real estate in the new States. It has been urged that that inconvenience would also reach the old States. The inconvenience, Mr. President, if it should occur at all, would be merely temporary. The reclaiming of the domain would go on more rapidly; and we all know that cultivated as well as vacant lands rise in value just as rapidly as new lands lying amongst or adjacent to them are improved. What would be lost in the first instance, would be abundantly regained afterwards.

There is, however, Mr. President, one objection of a more serious nature than any I have yet considered. I hear it said on all sides, that the domain ought to be disposed of, for great and beneficent objects, objects beneficial to the old as well as to the new States. Sir, I have always favored such a policy, and it is upon that ground, that I have cheerfully voted hitherto, as I shall continue to vote hereafter, for appropriations upon that principle, so long as Congress shall continue to adhere even in form to the ancient system. It is upon this ground that I shall support the bill now under consideration, which proposes to bestow upon the State of Louisiana the public lands within her limits, to enable her to improve the navigation of the Mississippi—a policy that I brought before the Senate at the last session—a measure of great urgency and of conceded national importance. I have had, moreover, a hope that this great resource might be applied to the establishment of a system for the gradual but certain removal of slavery, by a scheme of compensating emancipation. I have thought that the slaveholding States might wisely propose such a system, and that the free States ought to accede to it. But, sir, it is manifest that if the old States could not agree upon such a system, or even upon any other system of partition of the public domain among the States, or of distribution of its proceeds, while they held unquestioned the political power of Government, they cannot now hope to agree upon, and secure the adoption of such a system, when that power is actually passing over from them to the new States. The new States will control the decision of this great question. We may, nevertheless, by yielding to what is inevitable, modify the policy to be adopted.

I submitted, Mr. President, a second principle, to wit: That the public lands, so to be granted to actual settlers, ought to be secured to them against involuntary alienation.

I respect all lawful contracts, and I would not unnecessarily interfere with even rigorous remedies which existed when such contracts were made. But it is wise as it is just and humane to alleviate prospectively the relations between debtor and creditor. Within the last twenty years, imprisonment for debt, a system which had prevailed for more than two thousand years before, has been safely abolished by every State in this Union, and I believe by every commercial nation in Europe. New York, the most commercial State, has, with equal safety, abolished the rigorous remedy of distress for rent, and has exempted certain portions of estates from liability to sale for debts contracted after such laws were passed. Other States have adopted the policy of protecting the homestead from compulsory sale. A home is the first necessity of every family; it is indispensable to the education and qualification of citizens. Cannot society justly withdraw it from the hazards of commercial contracts, and from exposure to the accidents of disease and death? We bestow pensions upon decayed soldiers who have faithfully served their country in her wars; we protect such annuities against involuntary assignment; and the policy is as wise as it is generous. But he who reclaims an acre of land from the sterility of nature, and brings it into a productive condition, confers a greater benefit upon the State than valor has often the power to bestow. Sir, all that is movable in property may be used as a security for credits—and that security is adequate to supply all the wants of commerce. The home of the farmer, the asylum of the children of the Republic, may be safely reserved and protected.

There remains, Mr. President, a third principle, which, I think, demands the consideration of Congress, which is: That the administration of the public lands within the States should be relinquished to them.

It has been sufficiently shown, that the United States can no longer derive any financial benefit from the domain. They can at best hope to appropriate it to purposes of internal improvement and education. Experience has taught us nothing, if it has not shown that the action of Congress upon those interests is less judicious and beneficent than the action of the several States. Of all the railroads, canals, and other works of internal improvement—of all the universities, colleges, and schools, in the country, the States are, almost exclusively, the projectors, founders, and patrons. To maintain that the United States can select such objects, and apply the public lands to the attainment of them, more wisely than the States could do, is to controvert the principle of our Constitution, which assigns domestic interests and affairs to local administration. Sir, we have only a temporary jurisdiction, and a temporary estate in the domain—both of which are of brief duration, and comparatively valueless. The reversion of both belongs to the States, and is infinitely important to them. It is not until that reversion has taken place that the domain really begins to contribute to the wealth and strength of the whole Republic.

Nor am I greatly embarrassed by the objection that the new States would derive an unequal share of the benefits from what is justly called a "common estate." If all the public lands lying within their limits were released to them, they would still be inferior to the older States in the advantages of capital, labor, and commercial position. Every dollar of revenue which we should release, would remain within the new States, enhancing their ability to construct channels of trade, and to found systems of education—while their own increasing wealth and prosperity would equally increase the wealth and prosperity of the old States, with whom they are intimately related and indissolubly connected.

The Senator from Michigan is alarmed with apprehensions that the simplicity and certainty of titles would be put in jeopardy, by a transfer of the public lands to the States. But, sir, our machinery of title, which is so perfect, could be at once transferred to the States, and they could operate it with increased efficiency, and with economy, which is unknown to us. No one could defend for a moment the principle that the Federal Government ought to retain the domain, with all its expenses of administration, for the mere purpose of conferring titles in it, upon the citizens of the States.

The possession of the domain, moreover, creates relations of landlord and tenant, of patronage and dependency between the Government and the States, injurious to both. This has been an inconvenience hitherto unavoidable, and it ought to be continued no longer than shall be required by a paramount national interest.

I shall consider, Mr. President, very briefly, the power of Congress in the premises. So far as the Constitution is concerned, I shall pass by all commentaries and all glosses, and take my stand upon the simple text—"The Congress shall have power to dispose of, and make all needful rules and regulations respecting, the territory and other property belonging to the United States." The power of disposition thus conferred is general, unlimited, absolute. It is the same power that Congress has to dispose of forts, magazines, arsenals, edifices, or ships. They have power to sell. They have power to give. Of course the power should be exercised in this as in all other cases, for the best interests of the nation, but the discretion of Congress is not abridged.

Let us now examine the supposed limitations in the deeds of cession; for the rights of the States are secured by the Constitution. There are several grants which, it has been seen, are expressed in different forms. It is not the form employed in any one of the grants, but the general spirit and effect of them all, that explain and define the power conveyed. New York, Massachusetts, and Connecticut, released, by language broad and comprehensive. They conveyed "for the benefit of the United States."

Virginia and other States amplified, but manifestly for the purpose of expressing the same meaning more fully. They granted "for the use and benefit of the United States," and declared that the estate and jurisdiction conferred should "be considered as a common fund of all the States, according to their usual respective proportions in the general charge and expenditure, and should be faithfully and *bona fide* disposed of for that purpose, and for no other purpose whatsoever." This language was adopted with reference to the then existing Articles of Confederation, under which the States were charged with contributions for the support of the Federal Government, which system was afterwards modified by the Constitution of the United States, so as to dispense with contributions from the States, and invest Congress with power of taxation upon imposts, and of direct taxation, according to representative population. Certainly the terms of these grants were not intended to confine Congress to a disposition of the lands by sale only: Because, first, they expressed no such thing; and because, secondly, the political jurisdiction, as well as the right of soil, were included in the designation of "a common fund."

Again, it would be practically impossible, under any system whatever, to secure *equal* benefits from the domain to all the States. If you sell the lands in Ohio, you may divide the avails between that State and all her sister States, but the land will still remain yielding power and wealth, directly to the State, forever; while the other States can be only indirectly recipients of such benefits.

What was intended then was simply this: that whatever disposition Congress should make of the domain, should be one purely national and impartial. It seems to me to mean nothing more, and the Constitution expresses that meaning fully. If, then, the adoption of such principles as I have discussed has become necessary already, or shall hereafter become necessary, the policy would then be a proper exercise of the constitutional power, and would fall within the trust as defined by the deeds of cession.

This is a subject of vast importance. It reaches across the whole basis of the great empire which is rising on this Continent, and forward through all the stages of its elevation, and even of its decline and fall, if it shall not be perpetual. Posterity and perhaps the civilized world will review our decisions in the light reflected on them by their broad and lasting consequences. May they be such as will safely abide so severe and so impartial a scrutiny.

For the National Era.

EMIGRATION TO THE WEST INDIES.

As despatches from the British Government to the Governors of the West Indies have been published in the past week, probably the appearance of a statement of circumstances that have come under the notice of the writer of this communication may not prove uninteresting and unimportant at the present juncture, exhibiting as it does the advantage resulting from emigration to the British islands and possessions in the West Indies, over that to the coast of Africa.

During the last short war between the United States and England, a number of runaway slaves were received on board of British vessels of war on the coast, and subsequently conveyed to Bermuda, Halifax, and St. John's, New Brunswick. As a law existed in the former island, imposing a duty of £20 on all negroes imported there, these were afterwards sent to the last-mentioned places, where those of them who have withstood the rigors of the climate and the sufferings incident to their improvident habits still remain, with the exception of a number who about ten or fifteen years ago volunteered to go to Trinidad, under charge of an officer of the commissariat department, where land was given them, and who I understand are very comfortably situated.

Of those who were sent to Bermuda, a body of fine men entered the British service, and were formed by Admiral Cockburn into a battalion of royal marines, commanded by white officers belonging to that distinguished corps. When the peace took place, a difficulty occurred as to the manner of disposing of them, the corps being ordered to be disbanded; and the officers and band of the 2d West India regiment were accordingly sent to Bermuda, in the expectation that they would volunteer into the line. This they refused to do; and, after receiving free discharges, they were forwarded to Trinidad, where lands were given them, and where, I am informed, they also became comfortably situated. It will thus be seen that the utmost success has attended the efforts of the British Government to settle free blacks in its West India possessions.

Those who remained in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick have, since their arrival, been a constant burden upon those Provinces, whose Legislatures have repeatedly contributed to their relief from the public chest, to save them from absolute starvation, which I much fear will be the result of the accumulation of fugitive slaves in Upper Canada.

Now, the only instance, I believe, in which colored persons were sent to the coast of Africa by the British Government, was in the case of the Maroons, who were sent from Jamaica, after the termination of the Maroon war in that island, and who were settled at Preston, near Halifax. These were subsequently sent to Sierra Leone, in the expectation that a population of this description, nurtured as it was by the British Government, would not only become a thriving settlement, but that through their instrumentality the native tribes in their vicinity might become ultimately civilized, and that through their means the slave trade might be eventually abolished. But they were either cut off by the natives, who had conceived against them a deadly hostility, or fell victims to the climate and diseases incident to the coast.

With reference to the position of the colored population in the West Indies, particularly since the Emancipation act passed, it is very superior to what it can ever be in the United States, where prejudices exist against the race, which are not known in the British dominions—certainly not in England and in the West Indies, where a colored man may, by his industry and success in life, attain an elevated standing in society, and even be a welcome guest at Government House. At Jamaica particularly, as has been stated by Mr. Bigelow, in his interesting little work on that island, they hold some of the first offices and situations under Government, and are respected and esteemed for the probity and ability with which they discharge the duties with which they are intrusted.

It would occupy too much space, were I to enter into a consideration of the effects likely to result to this country from the project of the British Government, and its ultimate effect upon the institutions of the South; with reference to which I may trouble you on a future occasion.

VERAX.

Washington, March 3, 1851.

LIST OF ACTS

Passed at the 2d Session of the 31st Congress.

ACTS WHICH ORIGINATED IN THE SENATE.

An act to grant the right of preëmption to certain purchasers and settlers on the "Maison Rouge Grant," in the event of the final adjudication of the title in favor of the United States.

An act for the relief of Gamaliel Taylor (late marshal of the district of Indiana) and his sureties.

An act to limit the liability of ship owners, and for other purposes.

An act for the relief of Charlotte Lynch.

An act to ascertain and settle the private land claims in the State of California.

An act to authorize the exchange of a lot on the military site of Fort Hamilton for an equal quantity of ground adjoining said site.

An act for the relief of the legal representatives of the late General Walker K. Armistead, of the army of the United States.

An act to settle and adjust the expenses of the people of Oregon in defending themselves from the attacks of the Cayuse Indians in the years 1847 and 1848.

An act to create additional collection districts in the Territory of Oregon, and for other purposes.

An act to amend an act entitled "An act allowing compensation to the members of the Senate, members of the House of Representatives of the United States, and to the Delegates of the Territories," and repealing all other laws on that subject.

An act to change the terms of the circuit courts for the eastern and western districts of Pennsylvania.

An act to amend the act to change the time for holding the circuit and district courts of the United States for the district of Ohio.

An act to divide the district of Arkansas into two judicial districts.

An act authorizing the payment of interest upon the advances made by the State of Maine for the use of the United States Government in the protection of the Northeastern frontier.

An act to authorize the Secretary of War to allow the payment of interest to the State of Georgia, for advances made for the use of the United States in the suppression of the hostilities of the Creek, Seminole, and Cherokee Indians, in the years 1836, 1837, and 1838.

An act to found a military asylum for the relief and support of invalid and disabled soldiers of the army of the United States.

An act to amend the acts regulating the appraisement of imported merchandise, and for other purposes.

An act for the relief of the American Colonization Society.

An act for the relief of the administrator of Major Frederick D. Mills, deceased.

An act for the relief of Hubert H. Booley.

An act for the settlement of certain classes of private land claims "within the limits of the Baron de Bastrop grant," and for allowing preemptions to certain actual settlers in the event of the final adjudication of the title of the said de Bastrop grant in favor of the United States.

An act for the relief of William Hardin.

An act for the relief of H. J. McClintock, Harrison Gill, and Mansfield Carter.

An act to grant to the New Haven and New London Railroad Company the right of way through the custom-house lot in New London.

An act for the relief of Cincinnatus Trousdale and John G. Connelly of Arkansas.

An act providing for an additional term of the United States circuit and district courts at Chicago, in the district of Illinois.

JOINT RESOLUTIONS WHICH ORIGINATED IN THE SENATE.

A resolution providing for auditing and settling the accounts of the public printers during the recess of Congress.

A resolution in relation to the accounts of John De Neufville & Son.

A resolution changing the mode of appointing the clerks of the treasurers of the mints of the United States.

A resolution for the relief of Louis Kossuth and his associates, exiles from Hungary.

A resolution for the appointment of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

A resolution directing the distribution of the works of Alexander Hamilton, and for the other purposes.

ACTS WHICH ORIGINATED IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

An act for the relief of Sayles J. Bower.

An act making appropriations for the current and contingent expenses of the Indian Department, and for fulfilling treaty stipulations with the various Indian tribes for the year ending June 30, 1852.

An act for the relief of the widow of the late Lieutenant Colonel William Gray of Arkansas.

An act making appropriations for the payment of navy pensions for the year ending June 30, 1852.

An act to amend an act entitled "An act for the relief of Frederick Durrive," approved August 14, 1848.

An act for the relief of Dunning R. McNair.

An act for the relief of the legal representatives of Robert S. Burrough and of Stephen Hopkins.

An act to prescribe the mode of obtaining evidence in cases of contested elections.

An act to amend an act entitled "An act to establish the Territorial Government of Oregon, and an act to establish the Territorial Government of Minnesota."

An act to authorize the Legislative Assemblies of the Territories of Oregon and Minnesota to take charge of the school lands in said Territories, and for other purposes.

An act to supply deficiencies in the appropriations for the service of the fiscal year ending 30th June, 1851.

An act making appropriation for the support of the Military Academy for the year ending the 30th June, 1852.

An act making appropriations for the payment of revolutionary and other pensioners of the United States for the year ending the 30th June, 1852.

An act for the relief of Jose D. Ward and Isaac Watts Griffith.

An act making appropriations for the service of the Post Office Department during the year ending the 30th June, 1852.

An act to reduce and modify the rates of postage in the United States, and for other purposes.

An act making appropriations for the civil and diplomatic expenses of Government for the year ending 30th June, 1852, and for other purposes.

An act making appropriation for the support of the army for the year ending the 30th June, 1852.

An act making appropriations for the naval service for the year ending the 30th June, 1852.

An act to establish certain post routes in the United States and the Territories thereof.

An act making appropriations for light-houses, light-boats, buoys, &c., and providing for the erection and establishment of the same, and for other purposes.

JOINT RESOLUTIONS WHICH ORIGINATED IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

A joint resolution explaining the acts of the 7th July, 1838, March 3, 1843, and January 17, 1844.

A joint resolution providing for an adjustment of the accounts of John D. Colmesnil, President of the Ohio and Mississippi Mail Line Company.

The following appropriations for the city of Washington we select from the General Appropriation bill, in advance of its entire publication, as information interesting to our citizens.—*National Intelligencer.*

For improving the public grounds north, south, and west of the Capitol, $2,500.

For lighting Pennsylvania avenue from the Treasury Department to the Capitol, and compensation of lamp-lighters, $12,000.

For repairs of the bridges on the eastern branch of the Potomac, pay of draw-keepers, &c., $4,000.

For medical treatment of twelve transient paupers, medical and surgical patients, in the Washington Infirmary, $2,000.

For completing the grading, and planting with trees and enclosing, the public mall from Third street to the Potomac, $13,000.

For grading and planting with trees the grounds south of the President's House, $10,000.

For New Jersey avenue, south of the Capitol, $4,000; and the same north of the Capitol, $10,000.

For pavement around Capitol, $1,000.

For extending the gas-pipes around the Executive buildings, &c., $6,500.

For grading and paving Twelfth and Fourteenth streets, $9,000.

For grading and improving Maryland avenue, $6,500.

For grading and paving Seventeenth street, $5,500.

For filling up, grading, and improving Franklin Square, $5,500.

For the east wing of the Patent Office, $200,000.

For Washington city canal, $20,000; provided the city shall expend a like sum for the same work.

For completing the grades of the city, $4,000.

For compensation of the auxiliary guard, which is increased to thirty men, $15,000.

For rebuilding Columbia engine-house, $2,500.

For filling up reservation No. 11, $2,500.

PARKEVILLE HYDROPATHIC INSTITUTE,

Incorporated by the State of New Jersey,

ACCESSIBLE from all parts of the United States, situated two miles south of Woodbury, the county town of Gloucester county, New Jersey, and five miles from Red Bank, is now in *successful operation*, for the cure of Gout, Rheumatism, Bronchitis, Incipient Consumption, Dyspepsia, Constipation, Diarrhœa, Dropsy, Piles, Prolapsus Uteri, Paralysis, Neuralgia, Liver Complaint, Drunkenness, Insanity, and Scrofulous, Nervous, Febrile, and Cutaneous Diseases.

This Institution was built expressly for the purpose of a Water Cure Establishment, is capable of accommodating fifty patients, and abundantly supplied with *water of the purest quality.*

The location has been selected for the peculiar salubrity of its atmosphere, the inexhaustible supply of water, its proximity to the city, and the advantages which it offers for fully carrying out the principles and practices of the *Water Cure;* and, owing to the mildness of the climate, it is kept *open all the year*, winter as well as summer.

The main building is three stories high, standing back from the street about one hundred feet, with a semicircular grass plot in front, and contains thirty to forty rooms. The grounds around the house are tastefully laid out with walks and planted with trees, shrubs, &c. On the left of the entrance to these grounds is a cottage containing four rooms, used by male patients as a bathing house, with every convenience for "packing," bathing, &c.; on the right of the entrance, about two hundred feet distant, stands a similar cottage, used by the ladies for similar purposes.

In the rear of the Institute, at the distance of one hundred feet, are three other cottages, some eighty feet apart One of these is the laundry, with a hydrant at the door; the other two are occupied by the servants.

The hydrant water is introduced into these cottages as well as into the main building, and all the waste water carried off by drains under ground, (the Doctor being very particular to have every part kept clean and in good order.)

THE WATER WORKS

Consist of a circular stone building, standing on the brow of a hill, surmounted by a large cedar reservoir containing five hundred barrels, brought from a never-failing spring of pure cold water in the side of the hill. There are thirteen of these springs not far distant from each other, but five of them are capable of keeping the reservoir constantly overflowing. The surplus water is carried from the reservoir to a fountain in the water-works yard surrounded by weeping willows. In the first story of the water works is a circular room, containing the douche bath, which is a stream falling from a height of about thirty feet, and can be varied in size from half an inch to an inch and a half in diameter Adjoining the douche room is a dressing room, with marble tables, &c.; the *rising douche* (for the cure of piles, &c.) is one of the most complete contrivances of the kind, being entirely under the control of the patient using the same.

Below the water works, further down the hill, stands the swimming bath, with a stream of water constantly passing through it.

THE BATHING DEPARTMENT

Consists of a two-story building, connected with the main building by an enclosed gallery or passage—containing large packing rooms, bathing rooms, douches, (rising and falling,) plunge baths, half baths, sitz baths, foot baths, &c. &c.

A further description is deemed unnecessary, as those needing that kind of treatment are invited to call and see for themselves.

The servants and bath attendants have been selected with the greatest care, and are all accustomed to the economy of a hydropathic establishment.

Parkeville is about nine miles from Philadelphia, surrounded by a flourishing neighborhood of industrious and enterprising farmers. Communication may be had with the city, either by water or otherwise, several times daily. There are churches and schools in its immediate vicinity.

The managers, while they offer the advantages of their Institution to the diseased, would also tender them the comforts and conveniences of a home.

TERMS.

Ten dollars per week, or thirty-five dollars per month, which include board, treatment, and all other charges except washing. Those requiring extra accommodation will be charged accordingly.

Persons at a distance can obtain the opinion of the Resident Physician, as to the probable effect of the water treatment, by enclosing ten dollars, accompanied by a written statement of their case.

Application to be made to

SAMUEL WEBB, *Secretary*,
58 South Fourth street, Philadelphia.

Patients will be expected to bring with them two linen sheets, two large woollen blankets, four comfortables, and half a dozen crash towels, or these can be purchased at the Institute.

Such as wish to keep their own horses at Parkeville, can have them well taken care of at reasonable prices.

DRUNKENNESS is a physical disease, and can *certainly be cured* in almost every case, however inveterate, by a proper and scientific use of water, provided the patient has sufficient vitality to produce the necessary reaction, and is *sincerely desirous* to overcome the almost "*irresistible inclination for strong drink*"

Do not wait until your affliction becomes public; the moment you (or your friends) discover a *desire* for stimulating drinks, or for *opiates* of any kind, or for *tobacco* in any form, apply without hesitation—the earlier, the more speedy the cure.

The *inclination for stimulants, opiates, narcotics, &c., can be entirely removed*, even where they have been resorted to for the relief of pain, (which can generally be assuaged by the water treatment, without recourse to those poisonous substances.)

INSANITY, no matter how excited or depressed the patient may be, when not caused by organic destruction of some important part, can generally be *cured* by rational and mild treatment at this institution. Such patients will have all the benefits of an asylum and the *comforts of a home*, with skillful, kind, and attentive nurses.

Separate Buildings, apart from the main building, are provided for the above-mentioned classes of patients, where they can, if necessary, be entirely private and unobserved by others.

One of the wards is appropriated to *ORTHOPIEDIC OR MECHANICAL SURGERY*, for distorted limbs, &c., where the knife is entirely dispensed with, aided by hydriatic treatment when necessary.

Finding, from the number of patients heretofore sent by some of the most eminent physicians, here and elsewhere, that there is a disposition on the part of the *Medical Profession* to patronize an institution like this, where the medical and surgical departments are under the direction of regularly educated physicians, and where nothing that savors of quackery is allowed, and aware of the difficulty of administering the water treatment in private practice, the board of managers are willing to make satisfactory arrangements (pecuniary and professional) with *physicians sending patients to Parkeville Institute.* March 6.

JOHN W. NORTH,

ATTORNEY and Counsellor at Law, and General Land Agent, Falls of St. Anthony, Minnesota Territory.
Oct. 11.—y

LAW OFFICE, COLUMBUS, O.

WILLIAM B. JARVIS, Jun., *Attorney and Counsellor at Law*, Columbus, Ohio. Office in Platt's new building, State street, opposite south door of State House.
Business connected with the profession, of all kinds, punctually attended to. Jan. 23.

POWERS & SEATON,

ATTORNEYS and *Counsellors at Law*, and *Solicitors in Chancery*, Youngstown, Mahoning county, Ohio.
R. J. POWERS.
Sept. 26. G. W. SEATON.

AYER'S CHERRY PECTORAL,

FOR THE CURE OF

COUGHS, COLDS, HOARSENESS, BRONCHITIS, WHOOPING-COUGH, CROUP, ASTHMA, AND CONSUMPTION.

AMONG the numerous discoveries science has made in this generation to facilitate the business of life, increase its enjoyment, and even prolong the term of human existence, none can be named of more real value to mankind than this contribution of chemistry to the healing art. A vast trial of its virtues throughout this broad country has proven beyond a doubt that no medicine or combination of medicines yet known can so surely control and cure the numerous varieties of pulmonary disease which have hitherto swept from our midst thousands and thousands every year Indeed, there is now abundant reason to believe a remedy has at length been found, which can be relied on to cure the most dangerous affections of the lungs. Our space here will not permit us to publish any proportion of the cures effected by its use, but we would present the following opinions of eminent men, and refer further inquiry to the circular which the agent below named will always be pleased to furnish free, wherein are full particulars and indisputable proof of these facts.

From the President of Amherst College, the celebrated Professor Hitchcock.

JAMES C. AYER—SIR: I have used your *Cherry Pectoral* in my own case of deep-seated bronchitis, and am satisfied, from its chemical constitution, that it is an admirable compound for the relief of laryngial and bronchial difficulties. If my opinion as to its superior character can be of any service, you are at liberty to use it as you think proper.
EDWARD HITCHCOCK, LL. D.

From the widely celebrated Professor Silliman, M. D., LL. D., Professor of Chemistry, Mineralogy, &c., Yale College; Member of the Literary, Historical, Medical, Philosophical, and Scientific Societies of America and Europe.

I deem the Cherry Pectoral an admirable composition from some of the best articles in the materia medica, and a very effective remedy for the class of diseases it is intended to cure.

New Haven, Conn., November 1, 1849.

Major Pattison, President of the South Carolina Senate, states he has used the *Cherry Pectoral* with wonderful success, to cure an inflammation of the lungs.

From one of the first Physicians in Maine.

SACO, ME., *April* 26, 1849.

DEAR SIR: I am now constantly using your *Cherry Pectoral* in my practice, and prefer it to any other medicine for pulmonary complaints From observation of many severe cases, I am convinced it will cure coughs, colds, and diseases of the lungs, that have put to defiance all other remedies.

I invariably recommend its use in cases of consumption, and consider it much the best remedy known for that disease. Respectfully, yours, I. S. CUSHMAN, M. D.

Dr. J. C. AYER, *Lowell.*

☞ Prepared and sold by James C. Ayer, practical chemist, Lowell, Mass., and sold by the druggists generally throughout the United States and Canada. Feb. 6—3m

J. H. HAVENS, BROTHER, & CO.,

Inventors and Manufacturers of the Ethiopian and Fire-Proof Paint, Wilmington, Clinton Co., Ohio.

W. MYERS,

No. 319 *Main street, near Eighth, Cincinnati, Ohio, Sole Agent for the United States, to whom all orders must be addressed.*

THE superiority of this Paint over all other, for carriage, house, and ship painting, will be seen in its rapid sale. It is not over four months since this paint has been introduced into market, and our agent has been able to order one hundred tons. This paint is ground in oil and put up ready for use, from the finest black, down to any shade to suit the fancy.

Also, inventors and manufacturers of *Tanners' Blacking.* This article is so universally approbated by all who have used it, that it scarcely needs commendation. But, to give confidence to those who may not have tried it, we would say that Z. C. Ryon, foreman to A. M. Taylor & Co., Columbia street, Cincinnati, has authorized us to use his name as a recommendation to tanners in general. To all who know Mr. Z. C. Ryon, this would be sufficient; but all tanners in the city and country, who have used it, have granted us this privilege. If it were necessary, we could fill a newspaper with testimonials; but, where all who use are pleased, we deem it uncalled for.

The Tanners' Blacking is put up in kegs containing six gallons, ready for use, and will be sent to any point on the canal, railroad, or river, at 50 cents per gallon.

All orders should be addressed, post paid, to
HAVENS & CARROL,
Wilmington, Clinton county, Ohio, or
J. H. HAVENS, Cincinnati.

Also, inventors and manufacturers of a *Water-Proof Blacking for Oil Cloth*, that will reduce the cost 50 per cent., and will soon be in market. Nov. 28—tf

MEDICAL LECTURES.

THE Spring Session of the Physo-Medical College, Cincinnati, Ohio, will commence on the first Monday in March, 1851, and continue twelve weeks. Lectures to be given at Centre Hall, corner of Fifth street and Western Row.

The course of instruction will embrace Chemistry, Botany, Materia Medica, Therapeutics, Anatomy, Surgery, Obstetrics, and Theory and Practice.

Tickets to the full course, $24; matriculation, $3; and graduation, $20. JOSEPH BROWN,
Jan. 16—8t Dean of the Faculty.

CAHILL TOLMAN,

COMMISSION Merchant and Manufacturers' Agent for the sale of every description of *PLAIN AND PAINTED WOODEN WARE.* Particular attention given to shipping goods promptly, at the lowest rates, to any part of the country. Orders solicited.

No. 5 Canal and No 12 Merrimac streets, Boston, Massachusetts. Jan. 16—6m

HOOKER & HAWLEY,

ATTORNEYS and Counsellors at Law, Hartford, Connecticut. JOHN HOOKER.
Sept. 12—1y JOSEPH R. HAWLEY.

LIGHT'S LITERARY AGENCY,

No. 3 Cornhill, Boston.

ESTABLISHED to aid the circulation of all *USEFUL PUBLICATIONS* issued in the United States Orders for Books or Periodicals executed promptly, and at the most reasonable rates.

THE NATIONAL ERA comes from Washington to this Agency by Express, and is delivered by carriers in any part of the city proper, at $2.75 a year, *free of postage;* single copies 6 1-4 cents Price, by mail, $2.

THE FRIEND OF YOUTH, a new and attractive monthly journal for Youth, edited by Mrs BAILEY, and published at Washington, also comes by Express to this Agency. Price, delivered in Boston, *free of postage*, 75 cents a year; by mail, 50 cents.

June 6. G. W. LIGHT & CO.

NEWSPAPER AGENCIES.

V. B. PALMER, the American Newspaper Agent, is agent for the *National Era*, and authorized to take Advertisements and subscriptions at the same rates as required by us. His offices are at Boston, 8 Congress street; New York, Tribune Building; Philadelphia, northwest corner of Third and Chestnut streets; Baltimore, southwest corner of North and Fayette streets.

☞ S. M. PETTENGILL, Newspaper Advertising, Subscription, and Collecting Agent, No. 10 State street, Boston, (Journal Building,) is also agent for the *National Era.*

DAVID TORRENCE, NOTARY PUBLIC,

Xenia, Ohio,

WILL take acknowledgments, depositions, affidavits, and protestations, in town or country; is agent for the *National Era*, the *Union Mutual Life Insurance Company*, the *American Live Stock Insurance Company;* and will attend to the collection of claims generally; also, to selling, leasing, and renting real estate.

☞ Office—Galloway's Buildings, up stairs—corner room.
Sept. 19—1y

FANCY SILK GOODS, DRESS TRIMMINGS, &c.

J. K McILWAIN & SON, *Philadelphia, No. 3 Bank street*, importers and dealers in Fringes, Gimps, and Buttons, Hosiery, Gloves, Ribbons, Purse Twist, Combs, Steel Beads, Spool Cotton, Tapes, Needles, Pins, Bobbins, &c. &c. &c. Jan. 2.

WATSON & RENWICK, WASHINGTON, D. C.,

AGENTS *for procuring Patents in the United States and foreign countries.*

They prepare Specifications and Drawings of new inventions, and transact all business connected with their profession.

They will revise and attend to the reconsideration of those applications which have been rejected by the Commissioner of Patents, either on account of a defective specification and drawing, or the presentation of an improper claim.

Persons residing at a distance may procure all necessary information respecting the patentability of their inventions, may have their applications for patents made in proper form, and may obtain patents, without incurring the expense of a personal attendance at Washington, by writing to the subscribers.

Models can be safely sent to us by the Expresses.

Rough sketches and descriptions can be sent by mail.

Letters must be post paid.

Office on F street, opposite the Patent Office.
P. H. WATSON.
July 18. E. S. RENWICK.

BOSTON "NATIONAL ERA" AGENCY,

No. 3 Cornhill.

THE *National Era* comes from Washington to this office by Express, and is delivered by carriers in any part of the city proper, at $2 75 a year, *free of postage;* single copies, six and a quarter cents.

Now is the time to secure this national advocate of the Liberty Movement, during the first session of Congress under the new Administration, when questions of the most thrilling importance must be decided.

Subscriptions and renewals respectfully solicited by
Nov. 25. GEO. W. LIGHT, 3 Cornhill.

WHEELAN & WOOD,

WHOLESALE *and Retail Boot and Shoe Manufacturers*, sign of the *BIG RED BOOT*, No. 39 Lower Market, south side, two doors west of Sycamore street, Cincinnati—Dealers in *Boots, Shoes, Palm Leaf Hats*, &c.
J. P. WHELAN.
May 23—1y ☛ WOOD.

BOARDING.

MRS. EMILY H. STOCKTON, No. 161 Chestnut street between Fourth and Fifth streets, Philadelphia.
Oct. 25—tf

LARD OIL.

IMPROVED LARD OIL.—Lard Oil of the finest quality equal to sperm for combustion, also for machinery and woollens, being manufactured without acids, can always be purchased and shipped in strong barrels, prepared expressly to prevent leakage. Orders received and executed for the Lake, Atlantic, and Southern cities, also for the West Indies and Canadas. Apply to

THOMAS EMERY, Lard Oil Manufacturer,
Jan. 20. 33 Water street, near Walnut, Cincinnati, O.

LIBERTY ALMANAC FOR 1851.

THE *American and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society* have just published another stereotyped Almanac, for the coming year, with special reference to the great question of Slavery at the present time, and in the expectation that the friends of the cause throughout the country will co-operate in diffusing extensively the valuable statistical and reading matter it contains. Considering the expense at which the Almanac has been prepared, the low price at which it is sold, and the increased facilities for forwarding it, by express or otherwise, from New York, over the whole of the Northern States, it is confidently expected that the circulation this year will greatly exceed that of any previous year. So much useful matter cannot well be circulated at less expense.

The Almanac is handsomely printed, on finer paper than usual, with well-executed wood engravings, prepared expressly for it, illustrating the escape of Henry *Box* Brown, a scene at Washington, and the kneeling Slave Mother Besides the *Calendar*, which is equal in all respects to that of the American Tract Society's Almanac for 1851, and the Eclipses, Cycles, &c., &c., the Almanac contains a variety of interesting and valuable reading and statistical articles of an anti-slavery character, selected and original. The prices will be as follows:

For one thousand copies	$20 00
For one hundred copies	2 50
For one dozen copies	40
For a single copy	05

The friends of the cause are earnestly invited to co-operate in giving a wide circulation to the Almanac, and to send their orders at an early day for a liberal supply. It is suggested that they make arrangements with merchants in their neighborhood, before visiting New York, to have a few hundred Almanacs packed with their goods. In this way the cost of transportation will be very small. If no such opportunity offers, the owners of expresses are now more reasonable in their charges than heretofore. This mode of conveyance is better than the post office, as *every Almanac* sent by mail, whatever the distance, costs two and a half cents.

A Catalogue of most of the Publications for sale at the Depository is annexed, from which selections can be made; and books and pamphlets can be sent with the Almanacs, without much, if any, additional expense.

Orders, *enclosing payment*, in bank notes or post office stamps, may be addressed to

WILLIAM HARNED, *Agent*,
Aug. 8—6t No. 61 John street, New York City.

N B. Editors friendly to the cause of freedom are respectfully requested to give the above an insertion, as the object in publishing the Almanac is not to make money, but to diffuse useful information.

SANDS' SARSAPARILLA,

IN QUART BOTTLES.

For the Removal and Permanent Cure of all Diseases arising from an Impure State of the Blood, or Habit of the System.

AMONG the many and important discoveries of this generation, is one whose fame will be written, as with a sunbeam, in the history of the past. *SANDS' SARSAPARILLA* stands forth alone, and by its own works proclaims its power—that mute eloquence, so irresistibly affecting in the appeals of the suffering for relief, has been answered. Thousands of cases of disease have been cured by this invaluable medicine, such as are not furnished in the records of time. These things are not done in secret places, or in some unknown town, but are performed in our principal cities and public places. They are brought before the world to substantiate beyond doubt the *healing virtues* of this preparation; and the facts unfolded, although gigantic, are as plain as the light of day.

The Sarsaparilla is combined with the most effectual aids, the most salutary productions, the most potent simples of the vegetable kingdom; and its unprecedented success in the restoration to health of those who had long pined under the most distressing chronic maladies, has given it an exalted character—furnishing, as it does, evidence of its own intrinsic value, and recommending it to the afflicted in terms the afflicted only can know. It has long been a most important desideratum in the practice of medicine, to obtain a remedy similar to this—one that would act on the *liver, stomach*, and *bowels*, with all the precision and potency of mineral preparations, yet without any of their deleterious effects upon the vital powers of the system. Although possessed of powerful healing properties, it is entirely harmless, and will not injure the most delicate constitution. When in perfect health, no effect is produced by its use, except an increase of appetite; but when disease is seated in the frame, and carrying fast its victim along the path of life, then its mysterious influence is felt and seen; it enkindles new life and vigor, and brings health and strength to the suffering and diseased.

SCROFULOUS AFFECTION OF THE EYES.

WINCHESTER, KY., *October* 29, 1849.

A. B. & D. Sands—Gentlemen: I would not have presumed to write to you, if it was not my duty to let the public know the almost miraculous effect your Sarsaparilla has had upon me. My limbs were covered with ulcerous sores, so that I could not walk during the whole spring and summer. In this situation I commenced the use of your Sarsaparilla, and after taking two bottles was entirely cured. I must also tell you of another wonderful cure. My brother was afflicted with this scrofula in his head, so bad his physician told him the loss of his sight was inevitable, and permanent blindness seemed to be his fate. Three bottles entirely restored his sight, and we cannot but recommend all similarly afflicted to use Sands' Sarsaparilla

Yours, truly, BENJAMIN F. BUCKNER.

ITS POPULARITY ABROAD.

FROM SOUTH AMERICA.

MARACAIBO, VENEZUELA, *April* 12, 1849.

Messrs. Sands—Gentlemen: I consider it a duty due the public to make known the great benefit I have received from using your valuable Sarsaparilla. About three years since I was attacked with rheumatism in my shoulders, and also in my legs, and so severe was the pain, that I was unable to sleep. I tried all of the best medicines I could hear of, without receiving any benefit, until through the advice of a friend I procured some of your Sarsaparilla, and after using four bottles in the course of fifteen days, I found myself entirely well. I have no hesitation in saying your Sarsaparilla is the best medicine I ever took, and can confidently recommend it to my friends and the public.

Your obedient servant, J. M. JESURUN.

Here is another, nearer home:

NEW YORK, *January* 8, 1850.

Messrs. Sands—Gentlemen: I have great pleasure in acknowledging to you the great benefit I have received from the use of your Sarsaparilla. A subject of pulmonary disease, I made a voyage to Europe, but while there continued to be afflicted A few weeks after my return I was seized with a violent hemorrhage of the lungs, and from the debility and great prostration of strength that followed, with the protracted difficulty of respiration, I am entirely relieved by the use of your Sarsaparilla, which I consider a most important and truly valuable discovery in the healing art. I feel that I have not for fourteen years enjoyed so good health as at present. Very gratefully yours,

S. E. SEYMORE.

Prepared and sold wholesale and retail by *A. B. & D. SANDS*, Druggists and Chemists, 100 Fulton street, corner of William, New York. Sold also by Druggists generally throughout the United States and Canadas.

Price $1 per bottle; six bottles for $5.

For sale by *R. S. PATTERSON* and *CHS. STOTT & CO.*, Washington; by *ROBERT SHOEMAKER*, Philadelphia; by *COLBY & CO.*, Baltimore; and by *SETH W. FOWLE*, Boston. Jan. 9—eo3m